

Staunton Spectator.

Tuesday, March 16, 1869.

AN ELECTION TO TAKE THE VOTE FOR OR AGAINST THE SUBSCRIPTION TO VALLEY RAIL ROAD FOR \$300,000 BY THE COUNTY OF AUGUSTA.

ELECTION DAY, THURSDAY, MAY 27th, 1869. BY ORDER OF COURT.

The Order will be found in another column.

Radical Convention at Petersburg.

We devote a great part of our space this week to the proceedings of the Radical Convention, composed of "black spirits and white," which assembled in Petersburg on Tuesday, the 9th inst., to nominate a State ticket. It will be observed that they nominated for the office of Lieutenant-Governor a mulatto by the name of Harris, thus showing whether that party is rapidly drifting. The proceedings, as might have been expected from the character of those who composed it, were of the most disgraceful character, and presented a scene unprecedented in the history of this State.

The negroes, it is due to them to say, behaved better than the whites who sat side by side with them, mingled together like black and white pigs in a litter. This simile we are aware is not just to the pigs. It is not at all surprising that the negroes should behave better than their white allies, for the former are governed by some principle—the latter by the want of it. The whites in the Convention cared not a fig about the negro, but wished to appropriate the spoils of office, and use the negro as the monkey did the cat.

The proceedings, as they really occurred, are indescribable—they beggar description. They pulsed and hauled each other, and behaved so badly that the Mayor of the city—himself a Radical—by the aid of his strong police force dispersed the Convention, driving it out of the church, even before it was organized by the election of a temporary chairman.

The scene presented by forty thousand tomcats tied by the tails to each other in a garret, spitting, spluttering, caw-wailing, scratching, biting, making the fur fly like a thousand twanging bows in a butter-shop, would be peaceful and harmonious as compared with that enacted in this Convention.

Wells, the so-called Governor of Virginia, was there working for himself like a beaver—"For the first time in the history of Virginia politics," says the Lynchburg Virginian, "a man occupying the gubernatorial chair, and a candidate, we will not say for reelection, but for continuance therein, was present, advocating his own cause, and actually inciting to the disgraceful scenes that compelled the civil authorities to intervene and disperse the ruffians!"

We repeat it: no such disgraceful scene was ever witnessed in Virginia until now. Yet, when we consider what hands our politics have fallen into, it is not surprising. A set of Bowery boys, Five Pointers, Plug Uglies and Wood-nutmeg Yankees—all adventurers—have taken upon themselves to "run the machine" in this State. It is no wonder, therefore, that they should "fantastic tricks" and enact the role of the bull in the china shop. But it is astonishing that any Virginian, respectfully connected, will so far compromise himself and friends, as to identify himself with such a set! We are utterly amazed, and can only hope that if any gentlemanly instincts are left to them, they will be so deeply disgusted with the acts of the Zebra Convention, that they will shrink from any further connection with such a disreputable party.

Grant's Cabinet.

It seems that Grant has great trouble in setting the machine of Government in motion.—He first appointed the wealthy dry goods merchant of New York city, A. T. Stewart, Secretary. The Senate confirmed the nomination.—Then it was discovered that the appointment was in violation of the law which forbids persons engaged in commerce from holding that office. Then Grant sent a message to Congress requesting that A. T. Stewart be exempt from the operation of the law, and that, too, though he had just said in his inaugural address that "laws are to govern all alike, those opposed and those in favor of them," and that he "knew of no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution." Then Stewart proposes to surrender all interest in commerce during the term of his office, and to have all the profits of his business for that time appropriated to charitable purposes by three trustees, to the poor of New York city. Then Stewart resigns.—Then Grant withdraws his message asking Stewart's exemption from the operation of the law, and then Grant appoints in his place Ex-Gov. G. S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts. Then Grant appoints Ex-Gov. Hamilton Fish, of New York, Secretary of State in the place of E. B. Washburne, and appoints the latter Minister to France. Then he appoints Gen. E. W. Rawlins, his chief of Staff, Secretary of war, in the place of Gen. Schofield. Thus has Grant had his cabinet dancing a jig since he became the occupant of the white House.

Naked Outrage.

On Tuesday night last, as the young ladies of a Bible class were assembled at the Presbyterian Church Lecture Room, in Charlottesville, Jefferson county, before the arrival of the Pastor or any male members of the class, the room was entered by a man in a state of nudity, his face being concealed by a wrapping of some description. This deluded scoundrel (if not insane) should have his nakedness clothed with a suit of fur and feathers. Then he should be licked with a tongue of flame, then soundly scourged with a scorpion lash.

"Nigger not for Sale."

The white Radicals are greatly exercised about having a mulatto on their ticket, and say he must be gotten off somehow. We understand that they are willing to pay a big sum to effect it, and that Harris—their mulatto candidate for Lieutenant-Governor—was approached on the subject, and that he assured them that "he was a nigger that was not for sale—probably they could buy Gov. Wells." "Bully for Harris!" the Radical candidate for Lieutenant-Governor!

A BAD BEGINNING.—Secretary Cox's first official act was the removal of Mr. Charles H. McKnight, of Alexandria, Va., who was employed in the Secretary's office under Mr. Browning. Mr. McKnight had served in the Confederate army, where he lost an arm.

We are well pleased that a good and judicious law was not suspended or repealed to accommodate Mr. A. T. Stewart, or Mr. anybody else.

How the "White Trash" treat the Negroes.

Time and again we have warned the negroes that those white men who have been professing to be their special friends, and who have participated in their meetings and talked glibly of political equality regardless of "race, color or previous condition of servitude," have been using them as the monkey did the cat, when he pulled the roasted chestnuts from the hot embers with the cat's paw. They will learn as true as while that we have been telling them the simple truth. The action of this class of whites at this time ought to be sufficient to convince the most stupid negro. The negroes constitute nine-tenths of the Radical party of this State, and if the white Radicals were disposed to treat them fairly and justly they would proportion to the negroes to hold that proportion of the offices at the disposal of their party. But instead of this, they meet in Convention where four candidates for office are to be nominated, and they nominate three white men and one mulatto, instead of nominating three negroes and one white man, and then because this mulatto, though only half negro, and though educated, receives the nomination for one of the four offices, the white Radicals turn up their noses in disgust, secede from the Convention, repudiate its nominations, and issue a call for another Convention.

It will be observed that the Radical State ticket is just as it was before except that for the office of Lieutenant-Governor the name of Dr. Harris (mulatto) has been substituted for that of Clements who labored in vain to get up a step higher on the ticket and to occupy Wells's shoes. These white Radicals say that Harris will cause the defeat of the ticket, and to save their party, they will nominate another ticket of more "respectable Republicans," hoping that the Conservatives will assist them to elect it. The Conservatives, however, who constitute nineteen-twentieths of the white voters of the State, have an excellent ticket of their own.

The Baltimore Gazette says that the redistribution of military commands at the South is a palpable concession made by President Grant to the carpet-bag element of that section, and to the ultra Radicals in Congress and at the North. The transfer of Sheridan to Louisiana, of Reynolds to Texas, and of Terry to the Department now commanded by Meade; the removal of Stoneman from Virginia, and the substitution of Meade—all these changes may well justify the fears of the Southern people that they are to be brought under the rule of the bayonet even more rigorously than they now are, and that military Orders are to supersede, to a great extent, the laws of the land.

Another Change. Grant has revoked the order sending Gen. Sheridan to Louisiana. Will he revoke the order sending Gen. Canby to Virginia, and send Gen. Schofield instead? It seems that the changeless rule of Grant's administration is change. Burns says: "The changeless law of nature is change."

W. H. Samuel publishes a card in the Dispatch concerning the report of that paper which represented him as calling Jenkins, the temporary chairman of the Petersburg Convention, "a d-d thief." He says that he said to Levi E. Dudley, Secretary of the Convention: "I have an account to settle with you. You are a thief, and you know it."

The white membership of the M. E. Church South, within the bounds of the Baltimore Conference, is 21,041—an increase of 1,672 members.

The limit prescribed by act of Congress, in which office-holders, unable to take the iron clad, could hold their offices, will expire on the 18th.

The "politicians" in Washington, and at the North, now say that the indications are not favorable for quiet times as they had expected.

The Rev. H. W. Beecher said, in his sermon delivered two weeks ago, "I hate black. It is not God's color. White is God's color."

The ladies of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, at Martinsburg, resolved on Tuesday, March 9th, to receive no more of the fair, unless closed. This is unprecedented in the history of country fairs, and gives Martinsburg the feather of liberality.—Winchester Times.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.—Tuesday, March 9th.—A number of miscellaneous bills introduced and referred to committees. The Vice President laid before the Senate a message from the President asking leave to withdraw his message of March 6 asking the repeal of the act organizing the Freedmen's Bureau. On the motion of Mr. Sprague, the request of the President was granted. A message was also received from the President transmitting a list of seats passed at the last session of Congress, which was ordered to be printed. After some further miscellaneous business the Senate, at 1.30 P. M., adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—REV. J. G. BUTLER, of Washington, D. C., was elected Chaplain of the House by the Forty-first Congress.

The credentials of members elect from Louisiana and of the claimants for seats from the Third and Fourth districts of South Carolina are to be referred to the Committee on Elections. Mr. Hamilton, member elect from Florida, was sworn in. Mr. Butler introduced a bill to repeal the Tenure of Office act, which was passed by a vote of 143 yeas to 16 nays.—The House adjourned at 2.35 P. M. until Friday next.

Radical Convention at Petersburg.

The Radical Convention to nominate a State ticket met in the African Church in Petersburg on Tuesday last, the 9th inst. It was more like a pack of ravenous wolves fighting over a carter's pack of provisions than a convention to nominate officers.—We give the report of its proceedings as published in the Dispatch.

TUESDAY.—At 12 o'clock the Convention was called to order by Dr. G. K. Gilmer, chairman. The call was read by L. E. Dudley, secretary of the Committee. Scarcely had his last words escaped his lips when up jumped Butts, the irrepressible and indefatigable, and nominated George Tucker, of Alexandria, for the position of temporary chairman.

This was greeted with considerable applause. Captain Platt then nominated Mr. John W. Jenkins, of Frederick. Upon this, Bowden, of Norfolk, was opposed to the nomination of any man not rightly a member of the Convention. [Cheers.]

Platt answered that he did not over-estimate Samuel's talents, but he would not let him name him. Samuel vehemently called him to order. The question before the Convention was the nomination of a temporary chairman, and the gentleman had no right to speak at the stage. The Chair decided Platt out of order. [Cries of "Question!" "Question!"]

Platt again arose. Buttz interrupted him. Said he, "If the decision of the Chair is not to be obeyed, gentlemen, I say let us know." [Applause.]

Joe Holmes (whose voice arose above a dozen others): "Mr. Chairman, if I know the name of the chairman of the Convention, let's know it." Bowden, Holmes, Platt, Cox, and Maddox, and a dozen others, were shouting and making the top of their voices. Hine, among others, was inexorable. Said he, "I have the honor: I will have it; and I intend to speak."

Buttz: "The gentleman cannot speak. If he has any gentleman to nominate let him name him." Buttz, Bowden, Hine, Platt, and Samuel, held a flour caucus, which proved inharmonious, and the caucus was adjourned.

Joe Cox nominated William Isam (negro), of Richmond, for temporary chairman. [Further confusion.] Mr. Bowden was opposed to any representative of the colored race, and he voted against voting a county polling two thousand.

Mr. Bowden was opposed to any representative of the colored race, and he voted against voting a county polling two thousand. A delegate was opposed to contested delegates having so much to say. Platt said that Jenkins was a regular delegate.

Buttz: And there are fifty others, and the gentleman from Petersburg has no right to decide as to who is a regular delegate. Maddox moved that the gentleman be taken by acclamation. "Aye!" "Aye!" "Aye!"

Buttz (vehemently): "All in favor of the appointment of George Tucker, say 'Aye.'" "Aye!" "Aye!" "Aye!" tumultuously and loudly.

Tucker was conveyed to the chair by some of his friends. As he took his seat, guarded by Samuel and Buttz, Platt and several others advanced towards the chair. Platt "went for" Samuel, and a delegate who mounted the pulpit made at Tucker with a loaded cane. Instead of striking him, he brought Tukey a lick over his cranium, making the blood flow pretty freely. Buttz made good use of his lists, winking right and left. Samuel was also in the lead, and took an active part. The scene in the hall at this time was indescribable. The more timid of the delegates rushed out of the doors or vomited out of the windows. The remainder rushed towards the rear of the hall, and the confusion was worse than that of Bedlam. The police, headed by the Mayor, rushed in and interfered, amid the yells and cheers of the crowd.

Several arrests were made, and the parties were dispersed. While the parties were engaged in quelling the disturbance, Fayerman, a negro of Petersburg, rushed upon Samuel, who was standing on the steps leading up to the pulpit, and, in a menacing tone, said: "I give you warning, you d-d nigger! You do as you please, and you see if I don't do it." Samuel remained very cool, and asked the police to arrest the offender, but the latter remained in a state of glorious indecision in regard to the arrest of Samuel.

Burgess, the Mayor, at this point arose to address the meeting in order to preserve order. He proceeded at some length, and threatened that if any order was not soon established, he would order the meeting to be dispersed. He was continuing to speak, when objection was made to his addressing the Convention. He was not a delegate, and had no right to say anything. By dint of yelling and shouting he was dispersed. The parties were engaged in quelling the disturbance, Fayerman, a negro of Petersburg, rushed upon Samuel, who was standing on the steps leading up to the pulpit, and, in a menacing tone, said: "I give you warning, you d-d nigger! You do as you please, and you see if I don't do it." Samuel remained very cool, and asked the police to arrest the offender, but the latter remained in a state of glorious indecision in regard to the arrest of Samuel.

Burgess ordered the crowd to disperse. During the confusion which ensued, Colonel Burk, a delegate from Richmond, became violently involved in a difficulty, and was pretty roughly handled for a short while. He was ordered to be placed under arrest, and to be carried to the jail. As this order was being obeyed, he fell, and he lay on the ground for some time before he was removed to the hospital. He was ordered to be placed under arrest, and to be carried to the jail. As this order was being obeyed, he fell, and he lay on the ground for some time before he was removed to the hospital.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

By 4 o'clock the Convention had again assembled. Mayor Burgess opened the meeting, who advised quiet and order, and suggested that the chairman and secretary of the State Central Committee preside until a temporary chairman should be appointed. The Convention then adjourned until the morning session, and finally the Mayor lost his patience and left the hall, saying that he would leave the room to fight it out.

Tucker then arose, and suggested that Watkins James take the chair until a temporary chairman should be appointed. This motion carried, and noboddy was again the order of the evening.

Twenty or more motions were offered; among the first one to adjourn until to-morrow, to meet at the Metropolitan Hall in Richmond; which was lost. Pending the confused discussion which ensued many charges were made by each party against the other. During the skirmishing Bowden arose to speak, but was told to sit down by the Chair. He refused to do it, whereupon the Chairman ordered the Mayor to arrest him. Bowden: "I'll tell you I'll have you arrested if you talk to me in that manner." Burgess, by dint of parting him on the cheeks and shoulders, quieted Bowden. Massey swore he would not be ruled by the Mayor of any city. This was a free country, and no Mayor had any control over a convention of the free people.

more irrepressible, a motion to adjourn until 7 o'clock P. M. was lost. The previous order was renewed, the main question was ordered, and every other kind of question was ordered.

A motion that the votes on all questions be taken according to the number of Republican votes represented by the delegates was lost. It was then ordered that the vote for temporary chairman be taken by ballot. The following tellers were appointed: Jenkin, Platt, Bayne and Jones.

The ballot resulted in the choice of Platt, as temporary chairman by a large majority.—Three secretaries were appointed, as follows: Dudley, Bland, and Tukey. Committee on Credentials: W. P. Phillips, A. N. Fritz, William Isam, A. J. Dodard, T. O. Taylor, John R. Popham, E. E. White, F. H. Johnson, George Tucker. Committee on Permanent Organization: J. D. White, James Clark, Thomas C. Watson, J. R. Holmes, G. S. Curtis, W. H. Samuel, J. C. Robertson, H. Anderson, and W. H. Mosely.

The Convention then adjourned until 10 o'clock to-night.

MORNING SESSION. The Convention re-assembled at 10 o'clock. A recess was made by the order of the committee on credentials, that they be allowed until to-morrow, as they could not report to-night.

After some discussion as to the adoption of rules and regulations for the government of the convention, it adjourned until ten o'clock next morning.

WEDNESDAY.—The Convention met at 10 o'clock. The Convention proceeded to business in a rather more orderly manner than on yesterday.

The first question brought before the body was as to the rules and regulations for its government, and a motion was made for the adoption of the Manual as a preliminary guide.

Motion was then made to limit debate to five minutes. Amendments to make it ten and fifteen minutes were also made. A recess was then taken until 12 o'clock in order to await the report from the Committee on Credentials.

At 12 o'clock the Convention re-assembled. On motion, Hine, Maddox, and Buttz, were appointed to wait on the Committee on Credentials. A motion was made by Joe Cox to appoint the Chair appointed Mayor Rush Burgess Sergeant at arms. Objection was made to this, and pending the discussion which ensued, the committee appointed to wait on the Committee on Credentials reported that the committee would not be ready to report until after 2 o'clock. The Convention then adjourned until 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention re-assembled at 3 o'clock. The Chair appointed Thomas Scott (mulatto) Sergeant at arms.

Samuel objected to this, stating that Scott had made threats on the streets. He was called to order by the Chair. Great confusion ensued, and Samuel tried to make himself heard, and to "go for" Samuel, and a delegate who mounted the pulpit made at Tucker with a loaded cane. Instead of striking him, he brought Tukey a lick over his cranium, making the blood flow pretty freely. Buttz made good use of his lists, winking right and left. Samuel was also in the lead, and took an active part. The scene in the hall at this time was indescribable. The more timid of the delegates rushed out of the doors or vomited out of the windows. The remainder rushed towards the rear of the hall, and the confusion was worse than that of Bedlam. The police, headed by the Mayor, rushed in and interfered, amid the yells and cheers of the crowd.

Several arrests were made, and the parties were dispersed. While the parties were engaged in quelling the disturbance, Fayerman, a negro of Petersburg, rushed upon Samuel, who was standing on the steps leading up to the pulpit, and, in a menacing tone, said: "I give you warning, you d-d nigger! You do as you please, and you see if I don't do it." Samuel remained very cool, and asked the police to arrest the offender, but the latter remained in a state of glorious indecision in regard to the arrest of Samuel.

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New Advertisements.

THE VIRGINIA INSTITUTION, for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, is now prepared to offer for sale, in large or small quantities, a superior article of Soap, hitherto known as the "ECONOMY ECONOMIC SOAP," invented by Mr. George W. Beitzel, whose interest has been purchased by the Institution, and whose services have been retained as the foreman of the Soap Factory at the Institution.

N. B.—This Soap will hereafter be known as the "D. D. B. I. SOAP." 1. We guarantee that one pound of our Common Wash Tub Soap will do as much washing as one and one-fourth pounds of any other Soap now manufactured. 2. That it is a first-rate Shaving and Toilet Soap, always after use leaving the hands and face perfectly smooth. 3. That it will wash as well in Hard as Soft Water, in Cold as well as Warm Water. 4. That as a detergent it is incomparable. 5. That it will remove all kinds of grease and stains from clothing. 6. That it will set the colors of printed goods liable to fade and render them fast. 7. That it has a bleaching quality, and renders clothes very white and clean. 8. That it is a sovereign remedy for chapped hands.

If desirable to convert the bar into Soft Soap, 4 pounds dissolved in one gallon of water will yield one and a half gallon of good Soft Soap. A handsome and performed Toilet Soap will soon be ready for market. Our Wash Tub Soap can be furnished one-fourth cheaper than any other Soap. We will exchange on reasonable terms Soap for good Soap Grease, delivered at the Institution. This Circular is issued under the instructions of the Board of Visitors.

J. C. COVELL, Principal. N. B.—Patent to be applied for. FOR SALE BY TAYLOR & POWELL, Staunton, Va. DR. WATTS & BROS., " " " " O. C. ALDRICH, " " " " R. S. RIDGWAY, " " " " G. K. HARPER, " " " " INSTITUTION, D. D. & B., " " " " WILSON & FOSTER, Richmond, " " " " mar16-ly Vin copy

GRANT'S CABINET!—While the newly appointed Cabinet of U. S. Grant seems to disappoint everybody, and more especially the politicians, all who have faith in the President, and not only beautiful but durable, CLOTHING, now on exhibition at the EMPORIUM OF FASHION, under the North-West corner of the Virginia Hotel—which the proprietor offers at astonishingly low prices, owing to the fact that he wishes to make room for a new and more beautiful STOCK—have not gone away disappointed, but with their persons not only genteelly but comfortably clad in the most complete assortment of green-backs imaginable.

Fourth. Expresses the hope that hereafter the State can deny the right to citizens to vote and be voted for by their fellow citizens. Fifth. Thanking the President for restoring Sheridan and Reynolds to commands from which they had been removed for the faithful discharge of their duties, and also pledging the President the support of Virginia. Sixth. Asserting equality of rights for all citizens, and urging provision for the education of a people in all public schools, which shall be equal to all; a right equal system of taxation; a reasonable provision to preserve a house exempt from levy and sale; the payment of the honest debts of the State; to secure an impartial jury trial by opening the jury-box to all citizens without regard to race or color. Seventh. Asserting the right of the real Republican party of reconstruction to determine the manner as well as the constitution and laws under which the State shall be restored.

Eighth. Asserting that no republican form of government can exist or be wisely administered where a considerable portion of the people are disfranchised, and that the Republican party of the State are not in favor of the creation of permanent disfranchising laws, but pledge its efforts and influence to secure the removal of the disabilities of those who accept in good faith the results of the war and co-operate in the earnest efforts for the restoration of the State under the reconstruction laws, but such removals should be claimed on superior claims for amnesty, which are not possessed by the great body of disfranchised persons. Ninth. Asserting that the Republican party is the real party of reconstruction, and that there can be no permanent restoration of the State except through its instrumentality.

The State Central Committee was re-organized by the appointment of the following: First District.—J. M. Norton (mulatto), E. W. Massey, J. G. Bowden. Second District.—H. M. Bowden, Rush Burgess, Peter R. Jones (negro). Third District.—M. J. Dunbar, Wm. Isham (negro), Thomas Hewitt (negro). Fourth District.—George Tucker, W. L. Ferrand, G. W. Graham. Fifth District.—G. C. Curtis, Samuel Kelson (negro), Alvin Winer. Sixth District.—G. W. Jenkins, A. T. Manpin, F. H. Wessler. Seventh District.—Josiah Millard, F. M. Perkins (negro), Peter Cox. Eighth District.—G. W. Smith, Hardy Jameson (negro), James Culverston. At Large.—O. E. Hine.

After reorganizing the State Central Committee, the Convention adjourned.

Starting Disclosures. We had no idea of "Governor" Wells until we read the late bulletin, headed "Reasons why Governor Wells should not be re-nominated," put forth by the Clements radicals. We learn from this manifesto that "Wells has made \$100,000 in Virginia" by "some means" with the whiskey ring, and defrauding men who were cheating the United States of its just revenue.

We also learn that Wells has been trying to sell out the Virginia and Tennessee railroad to outsiders by which he would have put over a million of dollars in his pocket. The most astonishing item, however, which the Michigan Governor's late friends have brought to light in connection with the letting of the contract for the new bridge at Farmville (Yankoo Allan), and which Wells refused to explain anything about. We do seriously fear that there is something wrong about "Governor" Wells.—Enquirer.

New Advertisements.