



ALEXANDRIA, VA. THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1872.

NOMINATION OF GENERAL EPPA HUNTON.

The Conservative Congressional Convention of the Eighth District, which has been in session at the Assembly Rooms, in this city, today, consummated its work this evening by the nomination of Gen. Eppa Hunton, of Fauquier, for the House of Representatives.

Though all the other gentlemen voted for were men of well-known ability, yet the nomination is acknowledged upon all sides to be a most excellent one, and will command the unanimous support of all those who favor reform in the national administration.

The Convention was the most harmonious meeting of the sort we have ever seen, for though the various delegations earnestly pressed the claims of their respective candidates, they did so with a courtesy we have rarely seen equalled, and when the vote was made unanimous, it was not merely pro forma as usual, but with a cordiality and unanimity which will add additional weight to the nomination.

ELECTORS.—The Conservative State Executive Committee have appointed Wm. Kilgore, of Alexandria, as Assistant Congressional Elector for the Eighth District; and Matthew Harrison, of Loudoun, Senatorial elector for the First District, and James Barbour, of Culpeper, Senatorial elector for the Second District; H. D. Payne, of Fauquier, for the Twenty-first District, and Charles Herndon, of Fredericksburg, for the Twenty-second District.

Chas. E. Sinclair, of Prince William, has also been appointed Senatorial Elector. J. Mort Kilgour, of Loudoun; R. R. Farr, of Fairfax, and D. L. Smoot, of Alexandria, County Electors.

ADDRESS TO THE CONSERVATIVE VOTERS.—We publish to day the address of the State Conservative Committee to voters of the State, and ask for it a calm and attentive perusal.

Mr. Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania, a prominent and influential citizen of that State, for many years a member of Congress, and formerly Speaker of the House of Representatives, in a recent letter, says:—"When the people of one section of the Union, despite the education of their entire section, rally around the standard of a man, who for a third of a century they have been taught to hate as their political foe, they give the best evidence that with them the animosities of the past are buried forever. If not in this way, how then is the Union ever to be restored to peace and lasting reconciliation?"

Mr. Goodloe, of North Carolina, a member of the liberal-national committee, has arrived in Washington. He says that there is no doubt but that the Legislature will award the gubernatorial chair to Mr. Merrimon, at its meeting on the third Monday in November as evidence of fraud and illegal voting sufficient has been collected to destroy Caldwell's alleged majority. He states that numbers of colored men from other States were registered and voted, and that they came in the State via the Dismal Swamp canal.

A letter from Middleburg in the Loudoun Mirror says: "We have still great hope that the Piedmont and Potomac Railroad will pass at or near our town. The engineer corps is now busily engaged in ascertaining the most practicable point at which to cross the Rappahannock river; when this is done, I learn they will survey a route from that point to Aldie, which will probably come very near to this place. This would be of great advantage to us and would materially enhance the value of the lands in the neighborhood."

Col. Whiteley, commissioned to investigate the cases of the "Ku-Klux" prisoners at Albany, in his report, closes by recommending some to pardon, because they were misled, and others to continued punishment. It is stated that the President will act in accordance with the recommendations of this official. Thus it would appear that a matter which has occupied the attention of high judicial authorities, and which now involves the exercise of the executive clemency, is to be decided by a detective.

The Woman's Homestead Law, which was before the last Congress, and will come before the next, proposes to give, to every woman, married or single, residing in Oregon or any of the Territories, who is a citizen, or applicant for citizenship, one hundred and sixty acres of government land, if she dwells upon and cultivates it for four years, or if she spends two hundred dollars in improving it.

The universal desire, throughout the country, is that the prize fighters, Mace and O' Baldwin, may be arrested in some place where the law will authorize their commitment to the work house—and where they will be compelled to work. These vagabond disturbers of the peace ought to be punished severely, and nothing will be a severer punishment to such characters than manual labor.

Yesterday morning six men, who were returning from the mines near Centralia, Pa., where they had been at work, were fired upon by men ambushed on both sides of the railroad. Three of them were badly wounded, and one killed. It appears that they had been at work contrary to the orders of a gang calling themselves "Molly Maguires."

In Leesburg, last Monday, the people were addressed in able and eloquent speeches, by Dr. J. C. Hill, of Alexandria, John A. Carter, of Loudoun, T. T. Hill, of Culpeper, Gen. Eppa Hunton, of Fauquier, and Matthew Harrison, of Loudoun.

Lexington, the greatest race horse that America ever produced, died at Mr. Alexander's stud farm at Spring Station, Ky., a few days ago. This grand old horse ran the fastest four miles that were ever run where accurate watches and timekeepers were in vogue. He was the sire of more race horses than probably any horse that ever lived.

Capt. C. R. Tyler, brother of Gen. E. B. Tyler, of Baltimore, died at Green Bay, Wisconsin, on the 7th instant. He was Assistant Quarter-master on Gen. Lockwood's Staff, and was stationed during the first years of the war on the Eastern Shore, and in 1864 was attached to General Lockwood's headquarters in Baltimore.

In consequence of the high price of meat in England, meetings have been held in different parts of the kingdom, and resolutions pledging the meeting to abstain from the use of butchers' meat for a certain time have been carried. Australian canned beef and mutton are used instead.

E. H. Rollins' letter of resignation as Chairman of the Grant Republican Committee of New Hampshire has come to hand since the telegraphic announcement that he has declared for Greeley and does not warrant that assertion. In that letter he endorses Grant and Wilson.

Mr. Greeley arrived at Portland, Maine, yesterday, and was received by a great crowd of people, and greeted with music, firing of cannon and most enthusiastic applause. He made a brief address of acknowledgment.

The commandant at the Pensacola navy-yard reports the death on the 8th instant of Captain Alexander Gibson, U. S. N., at his residence in Pensacola. He has been on the retired list for some years.

Geo. D. Wise, at present Commonwealth's Attorney for the city of Richmond, has been nominated by the Conservative Convention as the Conservative candidate for Congress from the Richmond District.

The colored people of Massachusetts intend to support Mr. Greeley have issued an address, giving their reasons for their course.

The friends of Mr. Greeley in the Cincinnati district, in Ohio, have nominated two Democrats and one Liberal Republican for Congress.

The thermometer, in New York yesterday, stood at 100° to 106°.

Littell's Living Age, for this week, has an excellent miscellany from the late British periodicals. This periodical is published in Boston, weekly, at \$8 per annum, and is well worth more than that.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the Times"

On Saturday night Andrew King, John Johnson and Howard Johnson went to the saloon of Mrs. Martha J. Blackwood, in Scottsville, Sullivan county Missouri, and demanded oysters. She refused, whereupon they threatened to kill her, and stated that they had come there for that purpose. She then opened the door and as she stepped in the doorway was struck in the temple with a rock and knocked insensible. She died in two hours. King was soon arrested, but the others have not been captured. Mrs. Blackwood was connected with some families in Virginia, and with prominent people in Sullivan county.

The Mikado of Japan is still visiting localities in his Kingdom; he dresses in foreign style. Corea wants to fight and threatens to attack Japan; it is said that if the Japanese had told the U. S. what they knew of affairs in Corea last year, the intentions of our Government would not have been defeated. A horrible murder has been committed by police officers; railway fares from Yokohama to Yeddo have been reduced.

The people who witnessed the murder of James Fisk, Jr., by Stokes, in New York, whose whose testimony is important and who have been detained to give evidence, are being discharged one by one. It is said that next time Stokes' case is called the witnesses will be out of the way to such prejudice of the prosecution that he cannot be convicted.

Mr. Mundella, M. P. of Sheffield, one of England's leading reformers, addressed a meeting of his constituents on Tuesday night, and praised both the English and American Governments for their respective courses in regard to the Washington Treaty and the Geneva Tribunal.

Mr. Cohen, the English barrister, upon whose summons to Geneva the correspondents built a structure of speculation, was merely sent for to be on hand in case he was needed to make explanation of the report he made to the Crown on the subject of the American claims for damages.

The Grand Jury in New York has been discharged without finding an indictment against Mr. Louis Jennings, of the New York Times, in the libel suit instituted by Kilpatrick, and founded on a paragraph concerning his conduct as Minister to Chili.

The burglars who entered a house in Broome street, New York, last month, and tied and gagged the occupant, a lady, and to whose feet they offered to apply a torch, have just been sentenced to twenty years each in prison.

The U. S. fleet, with the exception of the Wachusett, is at anchor at Gravesend in the Thames. The Wachusett is to sail with Admiral Alden for Norway, and the Shenandoah will take Minister Schenck to Havre.

The house of the poet John G. Whittier was struck by lightning during a thunder storm, and he himself prostrated, but fortunately he was not severely injured.

Cheap funerals are now advertised in London, where a person can be shrouded, coffined and buried, with four experienced mourners, for about twenty dollars.

Foot and mouth disease, in cattle, in an unusually virulent form, is extending in England to such a degree as to excite no little alarm.

A warrant of \$336,817 was issued at the Treasury Department yesterday to pay the Kansas war claims.

The Government is only waiting to receive the title to the site to begin the erection of new buildings in Chicago.

Wm. Cregor has been arrested in Philadelphia for counterfeiting nickels.

The larger beer dealers of New York are organizing to oppose the enforcement of the new excise law of the State.

Lighthouse keepers are hereafter required to have certificates of competency.

Another fever ship has put into New York harbor.

Mr. Bloxham will probably get the Conservative nomination for Governor of Florida.

There are serious Indian troubles in Utah.

EIGHTH CONGRESSIONAL CONVENTION.

Harmony and Good Feeling—Unanimous Nomination of General Eppa Hunton, of Fauquier.

At half-past ten o'clock this morning the Convention met at the Assembly Rooms, in this city, full delegations being present from each county comprising the district, and it was remarked that a more intelligent looking body of gentlemen had seldom gathered in this city.

The Convention was called to order by Hugh Latham, of this city, upon whose motion John F. Wall, of Frederick, was chosen temporary chairman.

Upon taking the chair Mr. Wall returned his thanks for the honor conferred, and said that he knew that that decorous feeling and courtesy which always characterized assemblages of Virginia gentlemen would prevail here.

Gen. Banks, of Orange, rose and said that he knew of no one more suitable to preside over the deliberations of the Convention than the gentleman who had just been elected temporary chairman, and he would, therefore, move that Mr. Wall be chosen, by acclamation, permanent President, and putting the question, it was decided in the affirmative, without a dissenting voice.

Mr. Wall thanked the Convention again for this distinguished mark of confidence, but said that owing to imperfection of sight and hearing he must decline the honor.

On motion of Mr. Reiley, of Winchester, the following resolution offered by him was adopted: Resolved, That a committee of one from each of the Counties be appointed, to report to the Convention the names of the delegates entitled to seats, (the members of the committee to be designated by the delegations from the respective counties) and that a like committee, to be selected in the same manner, be appointed on permanent organization.

On motion of Mr. Reiley, E. Snowden, Jr., was requested to act as temporary Secretary of the Convention.

The following committees on permanent organization and credentials were then appointed, each delegation suggesting the names of the members: On Permanent Organization—Alexandria, R. K. Kupper; Clark, U. L. Boyce; Culpeper, R. S. Lewis; Fairfax, Thos. Moore; Fauquier, B. F. Rixey; Frederick, Jas. P. Reiley; Loudoun, Fenton Farr; Madison, T. J. Humphreys; Orange, Morris D. Newman; Rappahannock, S. G. Popham; Warren; George T. Lovell.

On Credentials—Alexandria, John J. Lloyd; Clark, David Meade; Culpeper, Geo. D. Gray; Fairfax, R. H. Fowle; Fauquier, E. D. Kinchloe; Frederick, E. S. Baker; Loudoun, C. Coleman; Madison, Thos. Smoot; Orange, W. A. Stewart; Rappahannock, H. S. Menefee; Warren, A. M. Earle.

On motion of Capt. Haad, of Loudoun, the Convention then took a recess of one hour.

The Convention reassembled at half past eleven o'clock, Mr. Wall in the chair, when the committee on permanent organization, through their chairman, J. P. Reiley, reported the following permanent officers: For President, Gen. Robert A. Banks, of Madison.

For Vice Presidents, J. W. Nalls, of Alexandria; Jas. R. Richards, of Warren; Jno. Marshall, of Fauquier; Geo. R. Head, of Loudoun; Thos. E. Carper, of Fairfax; Dr. W. A. Hill, of Madison; W. D. Smith, of Clarke; Dr. Jno. L. Woolfolk, of Orange; Henry O. Bannan, of Rappahannock; Dr. R. E. Utterback, of Culpeper; and Jno. M. Miller, of Frederick.

For Secretary, Geo. R. Shinn, of Alexandria. Assistant Secretaries, Edgar Snowden, Jr. and M. D. Ball, of Alexandria; B. F. Sheets, of Loudoun; R. W. Hunter, of Frederick; and J. O. Crown, of Clarke.

Maj. R. W. Hunter thought a Sergeant-at-Arms might be necessary, and as it was best in "time of peace to prepare for war," he would nominate Col. J. W. Minor, of Loudoun, for Sergeant-at-Arms.

Maj. Reiley said that in the committee the subject had been broached, but such an officer was not then deemed necessary, but since he found the gentleman from Frederick (Maj. H. I.) present, he did not know but that a Sergeant-at-Arms was necessary, and accordingly the report was adopted, and Col. J. W. Minor added as Sergeant-at-Arms.

Messrs. Reiley, of Frederick, and Kinchloe, of Fauquier, were appointed to wait upon the newly elected President and escort him to the chair.

Gen. Banks, upon taking the chair, thanked the Convention for the honor and apologized for not making a speech, saying that he would use his best efforts to accomplish the task before him.

T report of the committee on credentials was then presented and adopted as follows: Alexandria—Hugh Latham, Geo. R. Shinn, W. A. Stewart, J. P. Coleman, K. Kupper, J. B. Johnson, James W. Nalls, Robert Rudd, John E. F. Carlin, John R. Johnson, Jno. J. Lloyd, and Henry Febyer.

Clarke—A. W. McDonald, Wm. D. Smith, A. Moore, Jr., John O. Crown, J. W. Russell, J. W. Luke, G. C. Blakenore, Wm. G. Hardesty, R. W. Briggs, R. H. Lee, W. L. Boyce, and David Meade.

Culpeper—G. D. Gray, R. S. Lewis, L. A. Corbin, Dr. R. E. Utterback, Thos. W. Ashby, Johnson Smith, Daniel F. Slaughter, John R. Strother, J. S. Eggborn, and G. F. Parish.

Fauquier—E. D. Kinchloe, R. F. Brauer, John Marshall, B. F. Rixey, Gen. Wm. H. Payne, Anderson Smith, Jno. M. Fant, Daniel Payne, Dr. B. Shumate, and A. Ayres.

Fairfax—R. H. Cockerille, Wm. D. G. Watkins, Job G. McVeigh, R. R. Boyle, J. O. Kirby, J. Williams, Thomas Moore, E. M. Lowe, Thomas J. Carper, James Sangster, and H. Clagett.

Loudoun—Wm. Beverly, G. R. Head, Norborn Berkley, Fenton Farr, Thos. E. Taylor, John H. Simpson, A. T. M. Filar, John S. Shuey, H. E. Peyton, J. C. Coleman, and C. L. Mankin.

Frederick—John M. Miller, E. S. Baker, John F. Wall, James P. Reiley, E. M. Tidball, E. P. Dandridge, R. W. Hunter, George W. Ward, A. R. Pendleton, U. L. Dorsey, and Gen. James H. Williams.

Warren—Jno. W. Marlow, R. A. Fennell, Col. J. N. King, Jas. R. Richards, Jno. T. Lovell, R. B. Bayly, J. W. Thomas, Bushrod Rust, Col. T. B. Massie, and A. M. Earle.

Orange—Im. A. Jennings, R. W. Brookings, Judson Browning, P. P. Barbour, Wm R. Taffner, W. W. Scott, Dr. L. L. Woolfolk, Morris D. Newman, A. J. Cessen, and U. C. Buckner.

Madison—Joseph M. Fray, Capt. William Lovell, Dr. Wm. A. Hill, Thos. Smoot, Gen. R. A. Banks, and Capt. T. J. Humphreys.

Rappahannock—H. G. Moffett, T. B. Massie, H. S. Menefee, H. O. Bannan, A. T. Bots, Thomas Popham, John J. Miller, John R. Miller, John G. Laue, and James F. Strother.

Capt. Head moved that the rules of the House of Delegates be adopted for the government of the Convention.

Major Hunter objected to the adoption of the rules, as that would only require a majority to nominate.

After some explanatory remarks by several delegates, the rules of the House of Delegates were adopted, when,

Major Hunter offered the following resolution, which was temporarily laid on the table. Resolved, That the Convention do now proceed to the nomination of a candidate for Congress, and that two-thirds of all the votes cast, be necessary to a nomination.

Mr. Reiley moved that the vote cast at the last gubernatorial election be the basis of the vote of this Convention.

Mr. Boyce, of Frederick, objected, upon the ground that since that time there had been a great many votes added to the Conservative party by the removal of disabilities, additions to the party, &c., and besides, he said, many Conservatives had not voted for Walker, who were since sorry they had not. He thought the last election should be the criterion.

Mr. Reiley read from a circular from the State Executive Committee to show that it was intended that the Walker vote should be the basis.

Mr. Boyce contended that the adoption of such a basis would be an unfair expression. Mr. John Marshall, of Fauquier, thought that all the colored vote had been cast for Wells and that Walker's vote was the fairest basis that could be had.

The resolution was finally adopted. The resolution offered by Major Hunter requiring a two-thirds vote to nominate was then taken up.

Mr. Moffett, of Rappahannock, opposed the two-thirds rule, and wanted a simple majority. Maj. Hunter advocated the two-thirds rule, because, he said, there were four counties in the district that could control the nomination, unless such a rule was adopted. The adherence to such a rule might trouble the "wire-pullers" and "manipulators," but could not affect the chance of any prominent man, and, in his opinion, it might require a man who could get a two-thirds vote here to carry the district against an independent candidate.

Mr. Boyce agreed with Mr. Hunter and advocated the two-thirds rule, which he said, was an old Democratic and Whig rule. A simple majority might get another Greeley in the field. Mr. John Marshall denied that the two-thirds was a Whig rule; it had been adopted by the Democrats to prevent the North, where the numerical strength laid, from overriding the South.

Mr. Woolfolk called the previous question; which being sustained, the vote was taken by counties, and resulted in the adoption of the two-thirds rule, as follows: Ayes—Alexandria 1,377, Clark, 677, Fairfax 214, Frederick 1,572, Fauquier 220, Loudoun 2,149, Orange 880, Rappahannock 744, Warren 830—8,563.

Noes—Alexandria 300, Culpeper 1,212, Fairfax 963, Fauquier 200, Madison 965, Orange 220, Rappahannock 1,6—5,846.

The resolution having been adopted to proceed with the nominations, on motion of Mr. Woolfolk, nominating speeches were restricted to five minutes.

G. D. Gray, of Culpeper, then nominated Gen. J. G. Field, of Culpeper, and the nomination was seconded by Messrs. P. P. Barbour and W. R. Taliaferro, of Orange.

Mr. Latham, of Alexandria, nominated Dr. J. C. Hill, of Alexandria. E. P. Dandridge, of Frederick, nominated Maj. S. J. C. Moore, of Clarke, and the nomination was seconded by Mr. A. W. McDonald, of Clarke.

Gen. W. H. Payne, of Fauquier, placed in nomination Gen. Eppa Hunton, and Mr. E. D. Kinchloe, of Fauquier, seconded the nomination.

Capt. G. R. Head, of Loudoun, nominated Mr. J. Armstrong Carter, of Loudoun. Mr. James Sangster, of Fairfax, nominated Judge H. W. Thomas, of that county.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot, with the following result; whole number of votes, 14,509, necessary to a choice 9,673:

FIRST BALLOT. Table with 5 columns: Counties, Field, Hill, Moore, Hunton. Rows include Alexandria, Clarke, Culpeper, Orange, Frederick, Fauquier, Loudoun, Madison, Rappahannock, Warren.

After this ballot the name of Judge Thomas was dropped.

SECOND BALLOT. Table with 5 columns: Counties, Field, Hill, Moore, Hunton. Rows include Alexandria, Clarke, Culpeper, Orange, Frederick, Fauquier, Loudoun, Madison, Rappahannock, Warren.

After this ballot the name of Dr. Hill was dropped. Dr. Hill's name having been dropped Mr. Latham nominated Mr. H. O. Claughton, of Alexandria.

THIRD BALLOT. Table with 5 columns: Counties, Field, Hill, Moore, Claughton. Rows include Alexandria, Clarke, Culpeper, Orange, Frederick, Fauquier, Loudoun, Madison, Rappahannock, Warren.

After this ballot the name of Mr. Carter was dropped.

FOURTH BALLOT. Table with 5 columns: Counties, Field, Moore, Hunton, Claughton, Barbour. Rows include Alexandria, Clarke, Culpeper, Orange, Frederick, Fauquier, Loudoun, Madison, Rappahannock, Warren.

Mr. Reiley moved that the Convention take a recess till 3 o'clock, and the chairman putting the affirmative side of the question, declared the motion adopted, and left the chair, although there was a vociferous call for the negative, but the chair had been vacated.

The Convention reassembled at 3 o'clock and was called to order by the chairman, General Banks, and the fifth ballot was taken with the following result, viz: Fifth ballot—Field, 3,742; Moore, 5,336; Hunton, 5,431.

The name of Mr. Field being withdrawn, Mr. James Barbour, of Culpeper, was placed in nomination by Mr. D. F. Slaughter, of that county, in a highly eulogistic speech. Mr. Morris Newman, of Orange, seconded the nomination.

The sixth ballot was then taken with the following result, viz: Sixth ballot—Moore, 4,308; Hunton, 6,692; Barbour, 3,509.

Mr. Barbour being dropped; Mr. Gray, of Culpeper, renominated James G. Field, of that county, and the seventh ballot was then taken, resulting as follows: Seventh ballot—Moore, 5,866; Hunton, 4,635; Field, 4,008.

During the ballot a bench broke down, causing quite a scare to some at a distance, who thought the floor was going through.

Gen. Field was dropped on this ballot. Mr. Scott, of Orange, nominated B. Johnson Barbour, of that county. Col. W. A. Stewart, of Alexandria, enquired whether Mr. Barbour had authorized the use of his name; if he would serve, he preferred him to all others. Mr. P. P. Barbour seconded the nomination and assured the Convention that Mr. Barbour would serve if nominated. The eighth ballot was then taken as follows: Eighth ballot—Hunton, 7,171; Moore, 4,886; B. J. Barbour, 2,452.

Mr. Barbour's name was dropped. The Culpeper delegation asked leave to withdraw for consultation. On their return the ninth ballot was taken with the following result: Ninth ballot—Hunton, 8,558; Moore, 5,951.

The Chairman ruled, by mistake, that Mr. Moore was dropped, and amid shouts of laughter, gracefully acknowledged his error, after which, Dr. Lewis, of Culpeper, moved the unanimous nomination of Gen. Hunton. Mr. Hunter of Frederick seconded the motion. After a general consultation, Mr. Moffett of Rappahannock nominated Mr. J. Y. Menefee of that county.

Mr. Smith, of Clarke, seconded the nomination. Mr. Riley, of Winchester, regretted that the nomination had not been made sooner, but he thought it clear that a large majority was in favor of Gen. Hunton, and that that choice ought to be ratified. Mr. Jas. Sangster, of Fairfax, Mr. Lee, of Clarke, Mr. D. F. Slaughter, of Culpeper, Mr. Dandridge, of Frederick, and Mr. J. Boyce, of Clarke, then briefly advocated the unanimous nomination of Gen. Hunton, and the tenth ballot being taken resulted in an unanimous vote (14,522) for Gen. Eppa Hunton, the name of Mr. Menefee having been previously withdrawn by Mr. Moffett.

On motion of Mr. Moore, of Fairfax, the chair was directed to appoint a committee of one delegate from each county to inform Gen. Hunton of his nomination. Gen. Wm. H. Payne, of Fauquier, to be chairman.

Gen. Payne was then called for and thanked the convention cordially for Gen. Hunton's nomination, and the convention at 4:40 adjourned sine die.

Address of the Conservative State Committee.

To the Conservative Voters of Virginia: In discharge of the duty devolved on the State Committee by the late Conservative Convention, we present a list of assistant and senatorial electors for the presidential campaign.

It has been prepared with much care, after consultation with such of our consulting members as recently assembled with us in council, and on such information as could be procured from the districts not represented on that occasion. The list of county canvassers will be published as soon as it is completed.

Another office was assigned to the committee of a still more delicate and responsible character—that of redressing the inequalities which existed in our plan of organization in regard to voting in nominating conventions.

The original plan by which representation in nominating conventions was regulated by townships and precincts had been condemned as unfair and unequal, because liable to constant change in their number and bounds; as arbitrary and unequal, because of the difference in the number of their Conservative population; and, as affording no test of their relative Conservative voting strength.

Two other bases of arrangement suggested themselves—population without regard to color, and the numerical Conservative voting strength. The first presented this incongruity, that those who have practically weighed in the selection of our candidates who, so far from having any weight in electing them, make it their prime object, as a party, to defeat them; and it was felt that until the blacks shall become citizens in fact as well as in name, and act upon some more rational ground of public conduct than blind and fatalistic opposition to all that the whites propose, they can never be counted properly as a part of the Conservative body, any more in the selection than in the appointment of those deputed to represent it.

That plan being discarded for the obvious reasons, nothing remained but the method adopted by the committee—a nominating vote in conventions by each township and precinct scaled by its Conservative vote in the next preceding State election, or election for the Legislature, as the conventions may determine. Counties having a large negro population may regret the loss of representative strength by the operation of this rule, as compared with the strong Conservative counties, and prefer the population basis; but surely the latter might complain with more justice of a system by which their just influence would be dwarfed and weakened by the accidental presence in the former of that antagonizing and inimical element.

It is gratifying to perceive the ready approval and adoption in all the conventions which have since been held of the rule adopted by the committee, and it is believed that the more it is examined and tested the more it will grow in public estimation.

The campaign on which we now enter opens with brilliant auspices. Nothing is wanting to complete triumph in our State but diligence and energy in the work of organization, and for this we earnestly appeal to our whole party—our electors, our county superintendents and assistants, our rank and file—in a word, to all who sigh for deliverance from the House of Bondage.

There are some considerations which so far as the future can be safely reasoned about, would seem to make the success of the Cincinnati movement secure.

It is the first real honest proffer of peace to the Southern States which has been made since the war, and instead of meeting the offered grasp of friendship with the shut hand raised to strike, receive the offer with heartfelt cordiality. It is not too much to say that the whole South will so respond to it, except where oppression, military and civil, has stifled the public voice beyond the power of expression. Indeed, the desire for peace, real peace, is growing—may, has grown—into a national sentiment. This feeling, which, with other causes, originated the movement, will guide it progress and govern its issues.

It is the first instance in our political annals when nearly all the wise and good of a great party in power, cutting loose from party trammels, have come out from their recent associates, abjured their policy and practices, proclaiming a broad, liberal, and national statement of principles embracing all the important needs and wants of the country, and without concert, rather by spontaneous impulse, have been joined in their action by another great and powerful party in common war against abuses and evil practices which awaken indignation and censure of both. The cause of this anomaly lies deeper than in the practices of politicians and party leaders. It is a popular movement, the impulse of the popular mind, and finds its expression in that declaration of principles which make up the national policy of the great Liberal Republican and Democratic parties.

It is therein declared that the changes in the Constitution which came in place of a treaty of peace between the warring sections are transacted things—belong to the irrevocable past—and can never be disturbed; and that amnesty, forgiveness, on both sides, without any sting of reservation to mar its generosity, and grace, is alike the right and the duty of all.

That the rights of the States to their proper autonomy shall be sacredly preserved, and the rights of the citizen, particularly as guarded by the great writ of *habeas corpus*, shall be equally respected. It demands "for the individual the largest liberty consistent with public order, for the State self-government, and for the nation a return to the methods of peace and the constitutional limitation of power." Here is a wholesale rebuke and condemnation of those abuses which have literally trampled our Southern people into the dust, of that *centralism* which, by absorbing the rights of the States into the General Government, and the co-ordinate powers of the other departments of that Government into one, and by arrogating for Congress control over matters of minutest local concern, threatens the character of that Government with permanent and disastrous change. It will become, if resistance be unsuccessful, a merely personal Government, and even the representative principle itself, instituted by its framers, will be lost.

It demands return to the civil service, from the President down; denounces its disgraceful policy, its nepotism, *gift patronage*, and the bestowal of patronage, the gifts—practices—abhorrent with the people of Virginia to the nice and fastidious sense of honor in official character which has descended to them by tradition from the first great and pure President through all to the last whom she contributed to the service of the country.

It demands a just and equal system of Federal taxation, which shall not unnecessarily interfere with the industry of the people. This may be construed to mean, and we hope does in fact, the reuniting of the Federal government back for support to its exclusive subject of taxation—taxes on imports, yielding a fund ample for all its economical wants—and restoring to the States, what they have enjoyed almost without intermission from the foundation, the whole field of internal taxation, now so necessary to support the credit of the Southern States. Why should tobacco, confined in production to a limited belt of country, be crushed with specific taxation any more than wheat and corn and other cereals; or why should the Federal government tax all the products of the Southern States? It demands that the public lands shall not be profusely squandered, and that while the public faith shall be preserved there be no longer an oppressive anticipation of the payment of the public debt through onerous and grinding taxation, but that the whole interest and a sinking fund should