

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—House. Mr. Nichols (Ind.) favored the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution.

Mr. Ward (N. Y.) expressed similar views.

Mr. Grossbeck (O.) said that he would not vote for the Senate Bill. He maintained that the Constitution, under its own provisions, could not be changed until 1864 without a revolution. The instrument does not express the popular will, and Congress should not authorize proceedings towards the formation of a proper Constitution.

Mr. Marshall, Ill., looked upon those who framed the Lecompton Constitution as conspirators, and he would never vote to sanction such a fraud and an outrage on the rights of the people. He denounced the attempt to construe the broad and liberal provisions of the Constitution to be a mere device to keep the people in subjection. He has a high respect for the President, but he was a Republican. He would speak and act as a Representative of a free people should—no one who owes nothing to the President or his Cabinet.

Mr. Hughes, Ind.—“Who has made the attempt to establish a tie, to read man out of the Democratic party?”

Mr. Marshall—“It is done notoriously by the present Administration, and it is known throughout the country that the term of office depends upon whether a man can comply with the conscience and judgment of the President or not.”

Mr. Hughes—“Have you ever been excluded from a Democratic caucus?”

Mr. Marshall—“It so happens that a Congressional caucus has no power to read man out of the party.”

Mr. Lawrence, O.—Does it gentleman from Lincoln know how soon after tomorrow he will be excluded from the Democratic caucus?”

Mr. Marshall—“That does not disturb me in any particular. A man is a good Democrat who votes for the ticket without scrupling, and takes the stump for the benefit of the party. Is it not known that the Union newspaper forbids Kansas nothing and Black Republicanism, and does not allow the same for the ticket and election?”

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adoption—yes 120, says 112.

The announcement of this vote was received by applause in the galleries.

The House then proceeded to vote on the Special Kansas Bill, as amended by Montgomery's substitute. Passed—yes 120, says 112.

SENATE.—After some unimportant business, the Kansas bill as amended by the House, was taken up and amendments were read, when Mr. Green, without further explanation, said that he would submit his motion to disorganize to the direct vote of the Senate.

Mr. Bigler took the floor.

Mr. Bigler considered the House amendment as a clear violation of the Democratic principles that Congress should not interfere with the rights of the people of the Territories to govern themselves. Under that principle he had hoped to see a fraternal fight, of two States—one a Slave and the other Free—coming into the Union together.

He was against the amendment because it sets aside what the people of Kansas already have done. The amendment provides that the present Constitution be voted down; the people of Kansas shall call a Convention to frame a new one, on which the President is to declare its admission by proclamation. Thus it becomes a State without coming before Congress at all.

What guarantee is there against abuse? Who knows that it will be republican in form, or that it may not contain features inadmissible? There are many incipient features about this measure which may please the public eye, but which we are near the close of this Kansas turmoil. He saw in it the elements of governing mischief; the agitation of Slavery is speaking like the Upas tree, poisoning all the channels of intercourse between the great parties of the Union. He hoped that Slavery would be set at rest, and Kansas coming into the Union under the Senate bill.

Mr. Douglas said that he had hoped with the Senator from Pennsylvania, that this question would have been settled in accordance with those Democratic principles which had been the rule of his (Douglas') life. He thought that if the amendments were concurred in by the Senate it would be the triumph of those principles and would bring peace and quiet.

The Senators on the other side urge as a reason for the admission of Kansas, that it may bring peace. Why not then admit her? It can be done in one hour by assenting to the amendments.

Concur with the house and the action is final. Kansas is then admitted with the right to make a Constitution to suit her. Let the men of all parties and sections unite in settling the Constitution.

After replying to Mr. Bigler's opinion that this could be a violation of Democratic principles, Mr. Douglas referred to the President's message alluding to the Kansas-Nebraska act, and asked if the President had abandoned the Democratic party. The object of the reference of the Constitution to a vote of the people is simply to ascertain if it is the embodiment of their will; it is their act and deed. It is the duty of Congress to see that it is the embodiment of their will, before making it their fundamental law.

The Senator from Pennsylvania has cited the case of Florida. Florida was no precedent, and proves nothing, except the attempt to encroach on the action of Government, the principle that there is no need of the Constitution being the will of the people.

Such reasoning strikes at the root of all free government, and strikes the props from all parties, Democrats, Americans and Republicans. The House amendments to the bill accomplished two great points: One is, that it settles the Kansas excitement, and another that it recognizes the right of the people to frame their own Constitution. Why, then, should we not all unite and vote for the amendment bill, and immediately settle the Kansas dispute? Vote for it, and the rights of the people is recognized. Vote for it, and States' rights and States' sovereignty is preserved. Vote for it, and the country is given peace.

Mr. Pugh explained the reasons which would induce him to vote against the House amendment. His instruction did not cover the present juncture, hence he would exercise the right of his private judgment. He addressed himself to various points, showing the inapplicability of the provisions of the amendment to the circumstances of the case. The amendment submitted the Constitution to more contrived circles of voters than have already voted on the Slavery clause. It is, however, futile to submit it to a vote. The Free State people having a majority, the Slavery clause cannot be approved; and hence the Constitution would be voted down and the excitement be protracted by the framing of a new one. They must inevitably vote the Constitution down; they would do nothing else. Even if the amendments were appended to it, they must inevitably vote it down. He concluded by showing that if Congress assent to the amendment they declare themselves from all power over the Constitution to be framed. The passage of the amended bill would precipitate the people of Kansas into a new condition of anarchy. He was opposed to it in every shape and form, and considered it the most objectionable proposition yet submitted.

No other Senator wishing to speak, Mr. Green's motion was put to a vote and was agreed to—yes 32, says 23. Consequently the House amendments were agreed to.

The vote was as follows: Yeas—Allen, Bayard, Benjamin, Bigler, Bright, Brown, Clay, Evans, Fisher, Fitzpatrick, Green, Given, Hammond, Houston, Hunter, Iveson, Jones, Johnson, Ark, Johnson, Tamm, Kennedy, Malory, Mason, Pearce, Polk, Pugh, Sebastian, Shidell, Thompson, K. Thompson, N. J., Wright, and a like—32.

Nays—Bell, Brodick, Cameron, Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Crittenden, Dixon, Doolittle, Douglas, Fessenden, Foote, Foster, Hale, Hamlin, Harlan, King, Sewall, Simmons, Stuart, Trumbull, Wade, and a like—23.

Absentees—Bates, Davis, Durkee, Henderson, Reid, Sumner and Toombs.

The Senate was crowded during the discussion on the amended bill.

There was not much excitement at the announcement of the vote.

After calling of several yeas and nays in order to prevent Mr. Douglas from taking up the Minnesota bill, the Senate adjourned until Monday.

The Administration organs will find it troublesome to scratch a crum of comfort out of the election, some which we print this morning.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

The New York Tribune's Washington correspondent, says:

The Americans of Washington are as rejoiced at the result as the Republicans and the Douglas Democrats in Congress. The Buchanan men mourn and threaten alternately. The whippers-in insist that the House must and will recede; but the anti-Lecomptonites are firm, and all say that the man who yields shall be branded by the whole phalanx as disgraced.

Mr. Harris, of Illinois, came in from his sick room, determined to vote if it cost him his life, as it may. He, with Messrs. Lickman and Chapman, of Pennsylvania, voted to reject the Senate bill absolutely.

Every anti-Lecompton member should stay at his post. No one can know the hour at which the Senate may send back the bill.

Mr. Horace F. Clarke is entitled to much credit for his course to day against ardent influences from all quarters. Mr. Pendleton fulfilled more than was expected from him.

The N. Y. Lecomptonites, with other doubtfuls, refused even to vote for the bill after it was amended—thus denying to the people of Kansas their last chance to express an opinion on the constitution. They presented a humiliating spectacle, and shriveled under the shout for liberty which rang through the galleries when the Administration was defeated.

The Administration pretends to claim several anti-Lecompton Democrats as ready to surrender on a final test, with no better authority than that on which they rested their prognostics concerning the result to day. Buchanan is down and the Cabinet is expected to resign, since it has forced the issue and been defeated in the House of its friends.

(Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Times.)

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Nothing is talked of but the result of the great struggle and the success of the Anti-Lecompton alliance. The opposition are jubilant. So Southern Democrats profess not to care much about it.

Opinions are freely expressed that the Senate will finally recede. The design, however, of the Administration Senators is to insist on the Senate bill, and if the House insist also, to ask a Committee of Conference.

They believe that the South Americans will finally yield. The Republican means to vote against the committee. Pendleton and others are dissatisfied with the suffrage clause and may vote for the committee in order to get that amended. They attempted it to day, but too late.

Every member of the House was present and voted, except Caruthers, of Missouri. Caruthers will arrive to-morrow.

In the vote on Quitman's amendment striking out the clause declaring the right of the people to alter the Constitution at pleasure, was nearly sectional. Every Northern voted 'No,' and all the South but Blair, Craig, Davidson, Greenwood, Morrison, Harris, George W. Jones, Marshall, Ready, Risold, Smith, Stephens, Underwood, Warren and Whitley, voted 'Aye,'—the exceptions including five Americans.

The Philadelphia Pennsylvania, of Friday, says:

It seems that the disreputable coalition formed of political shreds and patches of all shades and colors—Abolitionists, Native Americans and apostate Democrats—have resolved to continue the senseless and infamous agitation, of which the devoted Territory of Kansas is now made to bear the immediate burden.

Never was such a shameful spectacle presented before in this or any other country. With the sole object of perpetuating a dangerous and unprofitable agitation, the moral, the very moral and pious Abolitionists in the House, have conspired with traitor Southern Americans and renegade mulatto politicians, to the extent of swallowing a pro-slavery constitution, and the men of the Humphrey Marshall faculty of temper, have embraced Giddings and Granger in the name of Southern submission to the demands of a sectional majority in Congress, to impose extra constitutional conditions hereafter on the people of any Territory applying for admission into the Union, while the trembling Douglasians have rejoiced to accept a respite under any circumstances whatever.

The Washington Union, of Friday, says of the Montgomery amendment:

It is essentially different from that proposed by Mr. Crittenden in the Senate, inasmuch as it not only provides for sending back the Lecompton Constitution, but also provides for the formation of another constitution, but provides, also, that the State may be admitted with this second Constitution, if the people of Kansas adopt it, by the simple proclamation of the President. Thus, the President is authorized (if, under the constitution of the United States, he can be so authorized) to adopt in advance a Constitution which Congress has never seen and cannot know to be republican, and to admit a State into the Union under it, without the action on it, either of the House or the Senate.

The Union says:

If the House shall persist in occupying its present position, the disagreement of the two branches must be a permanent one, and the cardinal object of the black republicans—a non-settlement of the Kansas question—will be successfully accomplished. We will not pause now to describe the inevitable consequence of this result—the consequence alike to the business of the country, to its political parties, and to the harmony, it may be, of the Union—because every reflecting man can foresee and adequately estimate these consequences for himself. We put the argument now upon the naked facts as they are shown by yesterday's proceedings, and in view of that record we appeal to every member who earnestly desires an adjustment of the Kansas difficulties to adopt that course, as a legislator, which alone can contribute to such a result.

The Union grates a little over the vote declining to absolutely reject the Senate bill. It states the point thus:

The first vote yesterday was on Mr. Bidgley's motion to reject the Senate bill, and the proposal of this master of the Black Republicanism was voted down by a majority of forty-two. This was a square division between those who desire a settlement of the Kansas difficulties and those who desire to keep them open to plague the country in the future. All the Black Republicans voted for the rejection, together with Messrs. Harris, of Illinois, and Chapman and Hickman, of Pennsylvania, who have sometimes been found in better company. All the Lecompton Democrats in the House

voted in the negative, together with the South Americans, and the most of those who, elected as Democrats, have yet thus far followed Douglas against the organization of their party on this question. The yeas were 95 (for rejection,) and the nays were 137, (against rejection.) There can be no mistaking the significance of this vote, and the whole country will hail it with satisfaction as a substantial endorsement of the Kansas policy of the Administration. The next question, had no amendments been offered, would have been a naked question on the passage of the bill which would then have been triumphantly successful. But the opposition did not dare to meet the question thus fully on its merits, and, therefore, proposed the Crittenden amendment as altered by Mr. Montgomery.

Execution of Orsini and Pierri.

THEIR CONDUCT AT THE SCAFFOLD.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times under date of March 13th, furnishes an account of the execution of Orsini and Pierri in that city. From it we extract the following:

THE SCAFFOLD.

About fifteen paces from the gate of the prison the scaffold was erected, and on it rose the instrument of death, the name of which recalls so many terrible associations. There it stood on its platform, like a ladder without steps; the block with a hole for the head to enter, at the lower end; at the upper, the heavy knife of a triangular shape with its edge like a razor's; hard by it the shell for the body after decapitation; and in front, the basket for the head; the cord by which the blade is kept suspended; the frame work painted a dull red, just discerned in the dim light of a winter's morning, all presented a most hideous spectacle.

THE MILITANT DEMONSTRATION.

At five o'clock, the sound of bugles and drums was heard in all the passages issuing on the Place de la Roquette. In a few minutes several squadrons of cavalry were heard advancing, the men wrapped in their blue or white cloaks, and the dragons' helmets gleaming in the lamplight. The whole of the 31 Hussars, two squadrons of heavy horse, two squadrons of mounted Gendarmes, issued from the side streets on the square. They then wheeled round, and separating into several detachments, swept the Place and the streets close to it, and quietly but firmly compelled the multitude to fall back to the north side of the Rue St. Maur, and the south of the Rue Popincourt and Basfroid where they were kept at a respectable distance by two squadrons of infantry, supported by divers sections of cavalry and squadrons of sergeants-de-ville. The Place of execution was occupied by cavalry, as well as the space which runs round both prisons. In less than half an hour numerous detachments of infantry, preceded by squadrons of sergeants-de-ville to clear the way took possession of all the points of Faubourg St. Antoine, issuing on the Roquette, and whoever胆敢 to pass that direction was obliged to stop satisfactorily that he was going on his lawful occupation. The armed force called into requisition on this occasion was calculated at over 5,000; they were under immediate command of a General of Brigade.

PREPARING THE PRISONERS.

There were two assistant executioners—one from Rouen, the other from Caen—beside him of Paris. These lost no time in preparing the convicts for the scaffold. During the dreadful operation Orsini remained calm; and though he was not so loud or contradictory as during a trial, Pierri was somewhat excited. The strain of waiting interfered with his gesticulations, but he hardly ceased talking for a moment. When the executioner was positioning him he asked that the fastenings should not be drawn too tight, as he had no intention of drawing. The cold touch of the steel on his neck, when the scissor cut off his hair so as not to interfere with the guillotine, for an instant appeared to thrill through him; but he recovered himself when he found that his beard was left untouched. He thanked the executioner for letting him die with his face as he was a man. When the hood to which the veil which covered the features of the paria was suspended, was put over his head, he said to have laughed, and attempted a joke about the figure he must cut. At this moment he turned his head and perceived Orsini; he saluted him gallily, and asked how he was getting on.

He was interrupted by Orsini who was himself undergoing the same operation with the same sang froid as if he were under the hands of a valet dressing for a party, with the words, 'be calm, be calm, my friend.' Pierri's tongue ran on, however. The assistant proceeded to strip him of his shoes, for in pursuance of the sentence they were to proceed to the scaffold barefooted. The man appeared to hesitate, but Pierri encouraged him as he could, still talking. The operation being over, and the toilette complete, he turned towards the guillotine, and asked to be allowed to embrace him. This request was complied with. The moment of moving now came, and the Abbe Hugon cried out 'Courage! Oh! I am not afraid—I am not afraid, he said, 'we are going to Calvary,' and in a sort of feverish excitement, he repeated to himself, 'Calvary, Calvary.'

Orsini was, on the other hand, as calm and tranquil as his fellow convict was excited. He spoke little; but when the Governor of the prison and some of the officers approached him, he bade them in a low tone of voice farewell. The turnkey of his cell announced to him in a tone of regret that his last moment was come. Orsini thanked him for his sympathy. His hair was also cut away from his neck, but he underwent the operation without flinching.

At the moment when the hood was put on his head, his face, which up to that moment was calm and impassable, became flushed for a moment and his eye lighted up.

THEIR CONDUCT AND DEATH.

The prison clock struck 7; before the last sound died away the door leading to the scaffold opened as of itself. The Abbe Hugon entered Pierri to profit by the few moments still left to collect his thoughts and assume a calmer attitude. He promised to be calm, and said he should chant a patriotic hymn; and it is said that he actually began to sing the well-known 'Mourir pour la Patrie.' Lying on the Abbe Hugon, he mounted fifteen steps of the scaffold, still repeating the verses of the song.

Orsini was supported by the chaplain of the Conciergerie, and his calmness never

abandoned him for a moment. When he appeared on the platform it could be seen from the movement of his body and of his head, though covered with the veil, that he was looking out for the crowd, and probably intended addressing them, but they were too far off. The greffier then directed the usher to read the sentence of the court, condemning the prisoners to the death of guillotine. The usher, who was a man over sixty, was evidently much moved at having to perform this duty, and he trembled as much from emotion as from cold when he read the document, which no one listened to.

After this formality was terminated, Orsini and Pierri embraced their spiritual attendants, and pressed their lips on the crucifix offered to them. They then gave themselves up to the headsman. Pierri was attached to the plank in an instant—He was executed first. The moment his veil was raised, and before his head was laid on the block, it is affirmed, he cried, 'Vive l'Italie—Vive la Republique!'

Orsini was then taken in hand. His veil was raised, and his countenance still betrayed no emotion. Before he was fastened to the plank, he turned in the direction of the distant crowd, and, it is said, cried, 'Vive la France!' It was but five minutes past seven when the second head fell into the basket. A cold shudder ran through those whose attention was fixed upon what was passing upon the scaffold, and for an instance there was deep silence. It passed off, however, very soon. When all was over, men went to their work, and parties who had gone to the spot from distant quarters of the town, hastened home to breakfast. The morning was becoming clearer every moment. The troops began to move as if about to leave the ground. The guillotine was lowered and taken off. The crowds gradually thinned; some few groups lingered about the spot; but the cold was bitter, and the snow began to fall, and in a few hours the place was deserted.

THE VIRGINIA DIAMOND.—The World Outlook.—We shall soon have to believe in the genuineness of the Virginia diamond if any more stories are told about it like the following from the Kanawha (Va.) Star of the 2d.

Some months since, Mr. Guy P. Matthews, a gentleman residing near this place brought into our office a remarkable and singular looking stone, which he believed to be a diamond, but did not wish us to notice it until he had submitted it to further tests. Since then he has submitted it to all the tests in his knowledge, which only served to confirm him in his belief of its great value.

A few days since he went to Cincinnati, and submitted it to the best judges there, who pronounced it a diamond. He then went to New York, where former decisions were confirmed—it was pronounced a diamond of the first water, and an eminent lapidary there polished it for the dust that it would yield in the operation. It is said to exhibit a most beautiful brilliancy. Mr. Matthews returned home last evening. We understood he was offered, and refused, \$25,000 or \$125,000 for it.

This stone, or diamond, is spheroidal in form—a very oblate spheroid—which weighs one hundred and forty three carats, or about one-tenth of a pound Troy. It was found about eighty years ago, by Mr. M.'s grandfather, in Buckingham county, in this State, and has been in the possession of the family ever since. It was supposed it might be valuable, but no steps were ever taken before to ascertain its position and value.

EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL.

HOUSEKEEPERS should have it.

FARMERS should have it.

YOUNG LADIES should have it.

YOUNG GENTS should have it.

IN SHORT, A L. L. should have it.

THE GOLDEN PRIZE.

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