



FRANK BURKITT, Editor.

Earnest, Faithful and Courageous, in Defense of The People's Rights.

MESSANGER PUB. CO. Prop.

VOL. 17--NO. 3.

OKOLONA, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1888.

\$2.00 PER ANNUM

For Congress. 1ST DISTRICT. Hon. S. L. Wilson, of Chickasaw.

WE are authorized to announce HON. CLARKE LEWIS of Noxubee, as a candidate for Congress from the 1st Congressional District, subject to the action of the Democratic Convention when held.

WE are authorized to announce HON. CLARKE LEWIS of Noxubee, as a candidate for Congress from the 1st Congressional District, subject to the action of the Democratic Convention when held.

From the published speech of Capt. W. H. Hardy, delivered before the so-called immigration convention, it would seem that gentleman had a chip on his shoulder, he was anxious some newspaper man would knock off. But the press is not compelled "to fight down hill."

The custom of electing five members of the Democratic Executive Committee from the State at-large in order that the Machine might control the body, was very effectively "set down on" by the late State Convention. An effort to have the convention name a Jacksonian as chairman of the committee was equally unsuccessful.

It is currently reported in Jackson that the Gulf and Ship Island railroad is about to be sold to the Illinois Central. If this be true, the date of the transfer fixes the time for work to cease on the G. & S. I., for it is evident the object of the purchasers is to prevent the building of the line. Every R. R. charter should contain a provision requiring purchasers to comply with the original charter under penalty of forfeiture.

The immigration convention business, as conducted last Thursday, looked to us very much like a mutual admiration society, organized by our machine governor, and the boss lessee of the Penitentiary, having for their object mainly the boosting of the G. & S. I. railroad and the laudation of the present State administration. Both leaders are daisies, and their respective occupations need frequent and copious white-washings.

Capt. Abbott makes a very favorable report in reference to the M. O. & C. Railroad. Everything is propitious and the probability is that work will begin at an early date. But this has been the talk every time we get a surveyed route, we feel in doubt of ever getting a railroad through this county by the subscription plan, too much opposition. Jay Gould is our only hope for a R. R. soon.—Pittsboro Banner.

The "wool hat boys" in Hinds didn't relish the scheme to get an endorsement for Lowry by sandwiching a machine resolution in between those endorsing Congressmen Hooker and our United States Senators. The chairman of the convention ruled in the interest of the oligarchy and after much squabbling the State Government rode the National Administration through by the meagre vote of 34 ayes, to 26 nays. 'Rah, for Lowry!

There was an immense crowd at the laying of the corner stone of the Confederate Monument at Jackson last Friday, and everything passed off pleasantly. Miss Winnie Davis, the daughter of the Confederacy, was the center of attraction, and the recipient of unfeigned homage from the ladies, the old veterans, the military organizations, indeed every one present. Much regret was expressed that her distinguished father was unable, owing to feeble health, to be present.

A COOL PROPOSITION.

The press association says the Clarion-Ledger at its last meeting unanimously adopted the following resolution:

Resolved 1st. That the members of the Mississippi Press Association, acting upon the principle of self protection, hereby pledge themselves, each to the other, that hereafter they will not support for re-nomination any officer who sends his orders for book binding, ruling or job printing to concerns located beyond the limits of the State.

It has come to pass, that we cannot discuss any public question, or criticize any position assumed by the editor of the C. L., without being charged with harboring "an anxiety at all times to assail the State Printer," nevertheless our anxiety to protect the public against extortion, and to preserve the independence and honor of journalism in Mississippi is greater than any unworthy motive our pompous co-temporary could assign for our conduct, and we very mildly request his permission to enter our protest. Without expressing an opinion as regards the real motives, which prompted the mover of the resolution to ask that the press of the State allow itself to be used as a cats paw, to pull the s. p.'s. chestnuts out of the fire, we want to say, that if the same character of work could be obtained in this State at anything like the same price, there would be no cause of complaint, and hence no necessity for this bull-dozing resolution, which in effect advertises the press of this State as a venal set of hirelings ready to boost any cause or any individual that will extend liberal patronage, and to oppose any public official, no matter how efficient he may be in the discharge of his duties, provided he should be guilty of sending out of the State for blank books and stationery. In other words, if he refuses to allow the people, whom he was elected to serve, to be black-mailed by the home paper, he is to be tabooed and an inferior man put in his place. It is claimed, that all such work can be done as well and cheaply in this State as elsewhere. But we know in many instances it is not done and we maintain that it is not only the right of a public official to purchase where he can get the best goods for the least money, but it is his duty as well, and he would be recreant to the trust reposed in him, if he permitted the tax-payers to be extorted upon by the local press, no matter whether the money went into the hands of an inebriated penny-a-liner, or the selfish boss of a subsidized organ. We are sure some clever publishers have endorsed the resolution without mature deliberation, but we hope we may be pardoned for saying, that a newspaper unable to live without the patronage public officials can give is not worth sustaining, and one that would increase its revenue, by offering itself to the highest bidder, as this resolution virtually does, can never be anything but a toadying boot-lick, and is unworthy of success, financial or otherwise.

We don't know what the Press Association proposes to do about it, but we deny its right to control our actions in matters of this kind, and we decline to acquiesce in, or be governed by any such mercenary resolution. If we can't command a sufficient patronage to maintain our paper, without announcing our uncompromising hostility to those who choose to patronize somebody else, and our advocacy of other aspirants less fitted, perhaps, for the position they seek, if they will only buy our influence, we will abandon the business and seek another field, wherein to earn an honest and independent support for our family.

We predict the present owners of the charter and franchise granted the Memphis Oxford and Columbus railroad, will wind up the ephemeral career of that very windy enterprise, by selling out to the Kansas City Company; that is provided always, the K. C. people should conclude the M. O. & C. is worth buying.

ness and seek another field, wherein to earn an honest and independent support for our family.

We predict the present owners of the charter and franchise granted the Memphis Oxford and Columbus railroad, will wind up the ephemeral career of that very windy enterprise, by selling out to the Kansas City Company; that is provided always, the K. C. people should conclude the M. O. & C. is worth buying.

Congress has passed the bill to establish a department of Agriculture, making it a co-ordinate branch of the Government, and its head a cabinet officer. Hon. H. L. Muldrow was the pioneer in this movement, and deserves to be appointed to the cabinet, and we hope Mr. Cleveland will recognize the fact by naming him for the position.

The Ripley Sentinel anticipating the action of the State Convention announces, that said Convention will endorse the State administration. In this, our cotemporary did not endorse the machine, by a large majority, and could not have done so, if the effort had been made. The truth is the weather was too warm and the administration delegates were too tired to undertake a job of such magnitude.

The editor of this paper was severely criticised for his opposition to an appropriation to Tougaloo, a colored school located in Hinds county, and managed by a sectarian board of Yankee fanatics. A fair and impartial investigation of the surroundings would be sufficient to confirm any uninterested tax-payer, that our position was correct, to say nothing of the riot organized there last week by a lot of drunken negro excursions, who were friends and promoters of the enterprise.

A bill passed the Legislature at its last session requiring railroads to be assessed as other property, and increasing the tax to \$150.00 per mile. The enacting clause provided that it should take effect sixty days after its passage. The Governor held the bill until the 4th day of April before he signed it, and hence it does not become a law until the 4th day of June, which is just four days after the time fixed by the code for assessors to complete their work, and as a matter of course the act is inoperative. As the Governor had from the 9th of March—the date of adjournment—to examine the bill it is singularly unfortunate for the public that he did not approve it a little earlier.

The Clarksdale Banner of last week very sensible remarks:

"The State administration and its supporters should be relegated to private life, at least for the present. A change all around is much desired, and we confidently believe that it will occur next year. The people have not forgotten how they have been burdened with taxation since Gov. Stone stepped down and out of the Governor's mansion, and the immense debt which now hangs as a pall over them. They know that the revenues have been misapplied or lost, and that in a certain case the official whose duty it was to protect the interest of the State, failed or refused to prosecute the guilty parties, and thus at one fell swoop about \$85,000 was lost to the tax-payers of the State. The people will always be benefitted by a change from the inveterate, chronic office-seeker to one who is merely willing to accept public station for the good of his constituents. Let us have a change when we all know that it will be beneficial to the people."

The State Democratic Convention.

Recently held in the city of Jackson was one of the largest as well as one of the most harmonious political gatherings, that ever assembled in the State. Every county, save one, was represented. The convention was presided over by Ex-Gov. Stone, the noblest Roman of them all, who was unanimously elected to the position. The platform, a model of brevity, yet a clear annunciation of principles reads as follows:

Whereas, The administration of Grover Cleveland has gratified the hopes and met the expectations of the Democracy of the country; that he has faithfully redeemed the pledges made by him to the American people, and diligently endeavored to comply with every condition of the platform on which he was elected to the Presidency; that he has stood by the Constitution; that he has executed the duties of his great office with favoritism to no class, industry or pursuits of his countrymen, and with strict impartiality to all; that we emphatically endorse his recommendations touching tariff reform and the finances of the country. Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democracy of Mississippi, in convention assembled, do hereby instruct our delegates to cast the vote of the State for him in the National Convention, and to advocate a declaration of principles in strict accord with the recommendations made by him to Congress in his message of December 6, 1887.

Resolved 2d. That we approve without qualification, the Mills bill now pending before Congress, and applaud the course of our Representatives who have given it a hearty and unanimous support.

Resolved 3d. That we congratulate the people of Mississippi on the elevation of one of her distinguished sons to the Supreme Court Bench of the United States; that the course of our distinguished Senators, J. Z. George and E. C. Walthall, is entitled to the full measure of our approbation, and the same is hereby extended them.

So far as we know, there was no asperity of feeling over the election of Electors and Delegates to the National Convention. Whatever rivalry existed between the various aspirants for position was as it should have been a generous one.

The following electors was chosen:

STATE AT LARGE.
A. J. McLauren of Rankin,
L. M. Southworth of Carroll.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.
1st Dist. E. S. Candler Jr. of Alcorn,
2d " Wm M Strickland, Marshall,
3d " D A Scott of Coahoma,
4th " O F Bledsoe of Grenada,
5th " W D Gibbs of Yazoo,
6th " E J Bowers of Hancock,
7th " C E Hooker Jr. of Hinds.

The list of delegates to the St. Louis convention is as follows:

STATE AT LARGE.
S S Calhoun of Hinds,
W H Sims of Lowndes,
F T Martin of Adams,
R H Taylor of Panola.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.

1st Dist. I D McDowell Oktibbeha
E O Sykes of Monroe.
Alternates, Q O Eckford Monroe,
W H Rees of Prentiss.
2d Dis. Chas M Thurman Tippah,
Wm Hull of Benton,
Alternates, Dr Wisenger of DeSoto
N A Taylor of Tate.
3d Dis J M Liddle of Leflore,
Thos E Crutcher of Warren
Alternates, C L Boberson, Tunica,
R V Booth of Warren.

4th Dis. A F Fox of Clay,
J W Young of Carroll,
Alternates, J M Trice of Chickasaw,
J W Barron of Choctaw,
5th Dis. J F McCool of Atalla,
R A Tibbs of Scott,
Alternates, T A Woods of Clark,
H S King, Lauderdale.
6th Dis. C P Neilson of Wilkinson,
A K Northrop Harrison,
Alternates, N C Hill of Jones,
G Nicholson, Hancock,
7th Dis C M Williamson of Hinds,
H C Conn of Copiah,

Alternates, Wm Buchanan, Rankin,
Geo Handy of Madison,

A State Executive Committee consisting of three from each Congressional District was chosen as follows:

W. B. Sanford, of Alcorn; Q. O. Eckford, of Monroe; W. H. Rees, of Prentiss.

Jas. T. Fant, of Marshall; J. C. Kyle, of Panola; J. W. T. Falkner, of Lafayette.

Murray F. Smith, of Warren; D. C. Casey, of Sharkey; Walter Silvers, of Bolivar.

W. C. McLean, of Grenada; Robert C. Patty, of Noxubee; Frank Burkitt, of Chickasaw.

R. S. Holt, of Yazoo; S. A. Witherspoon, of Lauderdale; W. H. Jones, of Smith.

W. T. Martin, of Adams; M. M. Evans, of Jackson; W. P. Cassidy, of Pike.

J. B. Harris, of Hinds; W. D. Torrey, of Jefferson; Pat Henry, of Rankin.

The committee organized by electing Hon. J. C. Kyle, chairman, and R. C. Patty, secretary.

Col. W. L. Doss, Superintendent of the Penitentiary, has given evidence of his intention to discharge the duties devolving upon him as required by law, faithfully, honestly and courageously. His recent report to the Board of Control, showing the inhuman treatment of the management of the G. & S. I. Railroad toward the convicts under their charge, is a manly document and resulted, as it should, in the discharge of a number of the brutal employees. Col. Doss is the right man in the right place, as the monsters who are striving to coin money out of human blood will learn to their sorrow, before they are much older in iniquity.

The Atlanta Constitution Answered.

The Atlanta Constitution. (Protection Organ) having asked why the planters don't get up a trust on cotton, and satirically suggested that the "detested tariff doesn't stand in the way," gets the following "knock-down" reply from the Hamilton (Ga.) Journal:

"Opposed with a tax on everything he buys, the cotton grower is forced to sell as soon as he can get his crop ready for market, else he would doubtless form a trust to get remunerative prices for it. But he must cultivate his crop with protected steel plows, attached to protected wooden stocks, drawn by highly protected trace chains. He must chop it with protected steel hoes and protected wooden handles. He must drink taxed coffee, sweetened with protected sugar, stirred with a protected spoon in a protected cup. He must wear protected clothes made with protected thread, held together by protected buttons. Finally he must gin his crop in a protected machine, wrap it in protected bagging and bind it with protected ties to sell it in a free trade market. Under these circumstances there is no wonder that the crop is sold before it is planted, and that the price is made by the buyer and not the grower."

THE HIGH-BRED COLLEGE.

Are congratulating themselves, that the apportionment law will not affect them until after the next session, and they are already making their arrangements to ignore its provisions, while pretending that the "spirit of the law" shall be carried out. In the catalogue of the A. & M. recently issued we find the following:

"The recent act of the Legislature apportioning students to the College, has been decided by the Attorney-General inoperative till after the close of next session, as it does not go into effect until October 1st, after the opening of the session. Still the Board intend to carry it out in spirit. The number of students in Dormitory is fixed at 300 and the apportionment is made as indicated by law. It is the evident intention of the law to protect students now at College who entered in good faith for the next session. Such students will not be charged tuition for the next session, except those who live near enough to the College to board at home. New students entering College from any county over and above the number apportioned to the county, will be required to pay a tuition fee of three dollars a month, which is also the amount required of those boarding at home."

We speak that we do know,—for we wrote the apportionment bill and introduced it at the instance and by the advice of the Appropriation Committee—when we say, that the bill only intended to protect the students in college for the present session, and it was definitely understood that all who entered the next session should be examined and appointed. It was argued and the reasoning was conclusive, that a student, who had been the beneficiary of the college for a term, if he had received proper instruction and was worthy to remain, had nothing to fear from competition with other applicants not so favorably situated. We warn the college authorities, that the tax-payers are not in a proper frame of mind to be tampered with, and if frivolous technicalities or sharp practices are resorted to, in order to extend privileges to favored individuals and thereby deprive worthy young men of their rights under the law, they will reap the fruits of their folly when the next Legislature assembles.

We want to suggest to them also, that fixing the tuition at the minimum rate, regardless of the advancement of the students, is a violation of a business principle and a direct thrust at every private institution in the State, which will be resented in due time. Gentlemen, who have been fed long and sumptuously from the public crib, may suppose, that they can harness the ablest and most successful educators in the State to their car of progress (?) and compel them and their friends to use their influence in favor of big appropriations to the State institutions, which rival their own business interests, while the management of said State institutions take the advantage of every circumstance to underbid, hamper, and embarrass private educational enterprises, but we confidently expect they will find themselves woefully mistaken in the near, near future.

The truth is, the system of "higher education" as established and conducted in this State, is an outrage upon the common school interest; a grievous wrong to professional teachers, plying their avocation as a means of subsistence for themselves and families; an onerous burden upon the tax-payers and upon the whole, a gigantic humbug and fraud, and the people will not patiently endure any more "monkeying" with their sacred rights.