

THE AMERICAN PATRIOT

DUNN & GREEN, Editors and Proprietors.

CLINTON, LOUISIANA:

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1885.

Native American State Ticket.

FOR GOVERNOR. CHARLES DERBIGNY, Of Jefferson.

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. LOUIS TEXADA, Of Rapides.

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE. ROBERT J. BEALE, Of East Baton Rouge.

FOR STATE TREASURER. J. V. DURALDE, Of West Baton Rouge.

FOR AUDITOR. WALTER ROSSMAN, Of Claiborne.

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL. RANDALL HUNT, Of Orleans.

FOR SUPERINTENDENT PUBLIC EDUCATION. O. D. STILLMAN, Of Ouachita.

For Congress—Third District. Col. PRESTON POND, Of East Feliciana.

Vidalia Convention.

The Native American Convention met at Vidalia on the 23rd instant, to nominate a candidate for Congress in this District.

As soon as the convention was called to order, and the credentials were examined, the following names were put in nomination: Col. H. W. Allen, of West Baton Rouge; Col. Preston Pond, George N. B. Wailes, of Concordia; Governor Paul O. Herbert, Gen. Houston, Judge Waterston and Mr. Scott, of Madison.

The delegates unanimously agreed to obliterate all traces of the old party lines and act with a view to one sole object—the interest of the American party. It was thought to be politic to nominate a Democrat and Gov. Herbert would have been the man had it not been that he expressed a desire to be left out on account of the health of his wife, to whom he is most devotedly attached and whose health is very delicate.

A gentleman, one of the delegates to the convention had addressed him twice by letter on the subject making the enquiry whether he would accept of the nomination, should it be offered him. Neither of which the General answered. It was taken for granted that the opinion he had expressed to his friends previously should be taken as conclusive.

The contest then lay between Judge Waterston, Allen, Pond, Wailes and Scott. And after balloting about thirteen times Col. Pond was declared the unanimous nominee of the party. Col. Allen and Mr. Wailes were on the ground and approved most heartily the choice of the convention. Both declared that they would use every exertion in their power to secure the triumph of the nominee.

We understand that it has been stated in some of the Baton Rouge papers that Clinton is a very immoral town—that there is more drunkenness than there was before the license system was put down. This is not the fact. The stoppage put to the whisky traffic has wrought wonders in the reformation of our town and the surrounding country.

We have received several bowls of Cotton from Mr. Matthew Bowman, all taken from one stalk, entirely blasted by the rot. This is the second evidence we have received that this terrible disease to the cotton crop has made its appearance in our vicinity. Showers of rain are falling daily which will have the effect to aggravate rather than allay the malady.

PENNSYLVANIA POLITICS.—The "Keystone" State in Democratic Conventions, positively refused, it seems, to support the Nebraska part of the Administration.

Commencement.

The annual commencement exercises of Centenary College came off on the 24th and 25th instant. The audience was very large, so much so that many were forced to remain on the gallery, not being able to obtain seats in the Chapel.

On Tuesday morning the exhibition of the Union Literary Society came off, the dignity and honor of which was most ably sustained by Thos. J. Millsap, J. H. Brigham, Charles M. Pilcher, Geo. Spencer Mayo, James M. Fly, and R. A. Cross.

Many contended that these young gentlemen had borne away the palm of victory from their opponents, but the question was warmly argued by the friends of the Franklins, particularly after that society was heard in the evening. The representatives of the "Franklin Institute" were A. F. Drake, A. C. Herbert, T. P. Clinton, J. Belsor Tarlton, T. Wilbur Compton, and William E. Gibson.

The address to the literary societies it was advertised, would be delivered by the Hon. Pierre Soule, but that distinguished orator not being present, the Rev. C. K. Marshall was introduced, and supplied the place of the ex-Minister in the most able manner.

Resolved: That we have good reason to believe that the Know-Nothing has invaded the sacred precincts of the judicial ermine.

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Commencement Day.

On Wednesday commencement day the audience was even larger than on the preceding. The chapel was crowded to its utmost tension. The graduating class, numbering twenty-two, was the largest the College has ever produced at once.

- "Latin Salutary,"—(1st honor.) JOHN S. YOUNG, Columbia county, Ark.
"Name—Man's Motive Power,"—J. G. CARNEY, East Baton Rouge, La.
"National Recollections"—The Basis of National Character,"—A. PORTER BROWN, Clinton, La.
"The Celestial Empire,"—PAUL GOBRIER, Iberville, La.
"Education without morality,"—MATTHEW J. BOWMAN, Tensas, La.
"Divine Inspiration Teaches Man to be Free," (1st honor.) CHARLES W. CARTER, Tensas, La.
"Triumphs of the Soldier and Philosopher,"—CHARLES P. DELEE, Clinton, La.
"A Tribute to Nathaniel Green,"—M. A. DICKSON, Clinton, La.
"Man and Circumstance,"—EDWARD J. DELONY, Clinton, La.
"Southern Literature—Its Necessity, Destiny and Influence,"—THOMAS C. W. ELLIS, Clinton, La.
"The Paths of Glory, Lead But to the Grave,"—JESSE T. DAVIS, West Feliciana, La.
"English Policy,"—ERNEST M. GOURBIER, Iberville, La.
"The Hero of 1803,"—THOMAS W. MIEBRE, Jackson, L.
"Man's "Eureka" Never Attained,"—JAMES MOORE, Jackson, La.
"Political Conservatism,"—(1st honor) WM. BRAINARD SPENCER, Trinity, La.
"Fill Try,"—JOSHUA D. NETTLES, Clinton, La.
"The Golden Age Never Present,"—WM. F. NOSWORTHY, Jackson, La.
"Progress,"—GEORGE F. SANDERSON, Natchez, Miss.
"Reflection, the Basis of Mature Thought,"—S. L. SINGLETARY, East Feliciana, La.
"The Lost Wonders of the World,"—W. NOLAN TIGLER, Woodville, Miss.
"Life in the Future," (1st honor)—WILLIAM W. WALL, Clinton, La.
"Valedictory Addresses," (1st honor)—RICHAED L. PUGH, Assumption, La.
"Baccalaureate"—By the President.

The "first honor" was conferred on three members of the class, Richard Pugh, Benj. Spencer and Wm. Wall, all being equal in point of scholarship and moral deportment. Mr. Pugh refused to receive his diploma when offered him, and the reason assigned for taking such a bold step was, that he considered himself aggrieved in the distribution of the honors. That the young gentleman acted under the dictates of the best of motives cannot be doubted by those who know him. But such a decided step—leaving room as it does to construe his action in the matter into an insult to the Faculty, to the President, and to the Board of Trustees—was very much to be regretted.

With such material as we can produce in our midst, who would import our intelligence? With such an institution as Centenary College at our own doors, who would think of sending away their sons to be educated? To our young friends we bid them God speed. They have made a brilliant beginning, and stepping into the arena of active life, with all their literary honors clustering thick about them, a generous community will not fail to encourage and sustain its own offspring.

At a meeting of the self-styled democracy some time since in this place a resolution was introduced and passed which read something after this manner: "Resolved: We have good reason to believe that the Know-Nothing has invaded the sacred precincts of the judicial ermine."

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Know-Nothing Proscription.

Seeing an article in the Feliciana Democrat of the 21st ult., entitled "Know-Nothing Proscription," which makes a charge that it strikes us, is entirely wanting in one great essential in a good cause, to-wit: truth, we venture to give a correct statement of the facts in the case and challenge a successful contradiction.

The fire company was organized by a number of gentlemen, who were active in procuring subscriptions to the fire engine. They acted in good faith in the matter; as far as they could they notified the subscribers of the fact that they were going to organize a company, thus giving all an opportunity of joining in the organization.

The editor of the Democrat and his cabinet the "special committee," well know that this was not the case, but hanging, as their cause is, upon a very slender thread, they are trying to make capital out of every little affair that occurs.

Those guilty of the proscription so gravely charged, based their whole course, upon objections to the applicants; for which they are ready and willing to stand personally responsible if necessary. They withdrew their opposition, when made acquainted with the fact that the applicants were subscribers to the engine; not hesitating to acknowledge the right of the stockholders in the engine, becoming members of the fire company if they desired; thus carrying out one of our cardinal principles, to-wit: "Opposition to any interference in the vested rights of all persons whether of native or foreign birth."

N. B. It is rumored that should the editor of the Democrat apply for admission he would be proscribed "ab," Rev. Dr. Bard "no Yankees allowed admittance."

Good Chops.—A friend writing from Manchac, in this Parish, says: "You will be glad to learn that our prospects for good crops are now exceedingly flattering for an almost unprecedented yield of both corn and cotton in this region. The cotton is already beginning to open rapidly and bids fair to be more than an average crop, provided it should not be cut short by the coldness of the rot, which are its greatest enemies during the later part of the summer and early fall months. I believe the cane crops, also, are much better than could have been expected, from the long drouth and other causes—and as a consequence, sugar planters hereabouts are likewise in good spirits."

The Courier and Centenary College.

During the last session of the Legislature, pending the application of Centenary College for aid, the charge was made and published in the New Orleans Courier that at the Conference of the Church held in Jackson a short time before, that assemblage, or "certain of them," did engage in initiating "brothers" in a "Know-Nothing" Lodge then and there established for the purpose.

As far as we know no enquiry was pushed beyond—into the Courier's authority. That "amiable position" was not assaulted, nor will it be now. Suffice it to say the College got what it wanted, and its agents may have preferred to cover up and conceal, rather than reopen wounds which could not be "first-intentionally" healed.

These things remained until quite a recent period, when, to our utter astonishment, the "Courier," without being "moved thereto" by any instigation apparent on the face of the record except to "do good" exonerates the College and church from the charge made by its correspondent.

At this late day, when there is seemingly no motive for it, but an abstract "returning sense of justice," the injured parties may in this, as in all cases, console themselves with the reflection that justice, though tardy, is always sure. But when the reflection has, in the least, a mixture of doubt in it as to the motive—the purity of motive which actuates the dispenser of it, it takes away a moiety of that "pleasurable feeling" which attaches to every man of sensibility who regards himself as entitled to his full "pound of flesh."

But, it may be even possible that the "Courier" has thought itself of the propriety under attending circumstances of calling on its "Jackson authority" for "material" to base its retrait upon—or, it may have been voluntarily furnished. If so, so much the better. We cannot well conceive how they know less now than they knew before. If there has been a "correspondence," may we not see, or in some shape, have a "peep at it." Or has the "Courier," since the organization of the Democratic central committee, upon advice, taken the bold step of ignoring the "reliable kinsman" of "one, who has seen some service."

The cry is, and will be, "more light!" and until this is furnished the whole proceeding will bear that "suspicious appearance" to say the least of it, which ought not to attach to the conductor of any public journal, or to the graduate or under graduate of any college, who has any respect or regard for himself, or desires the regard and respect of his fellow citizens.

But a little beyond all this comes up motives for action which it may not be amiss to glance at, to show the why, and the wherefore—the necessity and expediency of a "charge off-front," a backing out and retreating from untenable grounds.

The Philadelphia council has enunciated a principle to which universal approbation can not and will not be given. The Southern people and press do, and will repudiate it—at least the special application of it. The "churches" and the churches' organs are down upon it without an exception as far as we know. The Democratic press, the "American" press, —all are down upon it. On this one point there seems to be with us no issue, but perfect accord.

In this category is the "Christian Advocate" backed by the "Courier." The "Advocate" is one of the organs of the Methodist church. Its late article on the Catholic question has been copied into the "Courier" and other papers with varied comments, as proof—full and conclusive of utter hostility to the "American party." We have not a word to utter in dissent from that article. Its premises are good—the reasoning good, and they justify the conclusions. What more is deserved by way of admission? But the "Courier" thinks and so utters, that the "Christian Advocate," in this article directly repudiates the "American party," and hence infers that there will be, as there ought to be, an immense following of suit in this church, its organs and members.

Gen. Washington's Last Vote.

Every incident in the life of Washington is full of interest. The plain, heroic magnitude of mind which distinguished him above all other men, were evident in all his actions. Patriotism, chastened by sound judgement and careful thought, prompted all his acts, and made them examples for the guidance of mankind. It has been said that no one can have the shortest interview with a truly great man, without being made sensible of his superiority.

I was present," says this correspondent, "when General Washington gave his last vote." It was in the spring of 1799, in the town of Alexandria. He died the 11th December following. The court house of Fairfax county was then over the market house, and immediately fronting Gadsby's tavern. The entrance into it was by a slight flight of crazy steps on the outside.

There were five or six candidates on the bench sitting; and as the General approached them, they rose in a body, and bowed smilingly; and the salutation having been returned very gracefully, the General immediately cast his eyes towards the registry of the polls, when Col. Denale (I think it was) said: "Well General, how do you vote?"

"Gentlemen, I vote for measures not for men;" and turning to the recording table, audibly pronounced his vote—saw it entered—made a graceful bow, and retired.

We clip from the Baton Rouge Gazette the two following articles. All said therein concerning Col. Pond, his talents, and his prospects for election, we indorse most emphatically. As an orator, Col. Pond has few equals and no superiors. The members of the Convention who heard him for the first time were completely captivated by his brilliancy and his eloquence. We have no fears as to the result—the natives are wide awake.

THE CONVENTION AT VIDALIA.—We learn from one of the delegates to the Congressional Convention lately held in vidalia, that it was a most enthusiastic and harmonious affair. Every Parish in the District was fully and ably represented, and although several candidates were brought forward by their immediate friends, for the nomination, there was none of that animosity of stubbornness displayed, usual to occasions, where a diversity of claims are presented.

PRESTON POND, JR.—In selecting Mr. Pond as their standard bearer, in the approaching Congressional contest the American party have acted wisely. He was raised and educated in East Feliciana, is in the prime of life, a lawyer by profession and a gentleman of high literary attainments, and as an orator has no peer in this district.

TRIBUTE OF GRATEFUL AFFECTION.—Gen. Cass, in an oration delivered on the 4th inst., gave vent to the following beautiful outburst of feeling to his beloved native land. Speaking of the Federal Government, he said: "It has protected me and mine from external aggression and from internal violence; and by its noble equality, joined to the undervalued favor of my fellow-citizens, it has opened to me position of public honor and confidence, to which the circumstances of my youth gave me no right to look forward, and which my brightest day-dreams, that sometimes came to soften the harsh realities of a frontier struggle, never even presented to my imagination; and what it has done for me, it has offered to all. Well then may I be proud to acknowledge the hold it possesses upon my gratitude and affection, and the intensity of the feeling of attachment with which I treasure it in my heart."

At the residence of Daniel Wilson, Amite co., Miss, on the 12th inst. Miss LAURA M., daughter of the late Samuel W. Watkins, of this parish, died.

The following is taken from the Baton Rouge Advocate and how the editor came to be so wise is past finding out:

KNOW NOTHINGISM IN EAST FELICIANA.—An election for Justice of the Peace in the second ward of East Feliciana, on the 18th inst., was a contest. But they were most egregiously defeated—the anti-Know Nothing candidate being elected, we learn by a majority of 2 to 1. We also learn that the wigman of that ward has exploded, and that a number of ex-Know Nothings are expected to signify in print, over their proper signatures, their severance from the order, on account of "disgrace for the hunt after office" and other characteristic features which have of late distinguished it.

The members of the Native American party in the second Ward positively refused to make the election of Justice of the Peace turn upon party issues several of them voting for the candidate elected. In this they acted wisely and well. We are opposed to making a party question of such elections—the election to offices merely administrative in their character, lie as we think entirely beyond the pale of party jurisdiction.

The gentleman who was defeated in this election is in every way worthy and capable for the post but the people of ward preferred his opponent, and he was elected. He will make a good officer, and no one in the ward perhaps is dissatisfied with his election. As for the withdrawals, several, perhaps three have done so. Thus was but the legitimate exercise of a right they possessed. All who wish to leave our party, the doors are open, and they can depart in peace. There never has been a wigman in the second ward and how one could be broken up when it is not there, we are at a loss to understand. There has been about six withdrawals from the order in the last three months, and in the same time about thirty five have been brought to know the truth and appreciate the same.

AN EXTENSIVE LAND SALE.—On the 7th inst. a very large sale of land took place in the Parish of Concordia. The quantity sold amounted to nearly twenty-four thousand acres, and includes some of the best lands in the parish. The sale attracted a large company. The purchasers were twenty-five in number and the amount of the sales was \$237,643 22, at an average price of \$6 per acre. The highest price was \$23 50 and the lowest 40 cents per acre. The improved lands were principally bought by the present occupants.

PARTIES.—The Richmond Enquirer insists that there are but two parties in the United States; "the Democracy on the one side and the rabble of isms on the other." In reply to this assertion the New York Herald pertinently asks:

Who are the Democracy? What are they? Where are they? Are the New York Buren Buffalo freezers, of the soft shell administration type, the Democracy? or the Jeff Davis secessionists? or the Southern conservatives of the Cobb school of Georgia? As those old Democrats in both sections oppose to this rotten administration, the Democracy are the few disheartened and demoralized spoilsmen that still cling to the public plunder, the real genuine Democratic party? Who our Richmond cotemporary has found the Democracy, we shall be enabled to prove to his entire satisfaction that there are two other great parties—"the rabble of isms," with Seward as their champion, and the great national American party, formed of some of the best materials of both the old Whig and Democratic parties.

CLINTON BRANCH RAIL ROAD.



THE friends of the proposed Rail Road connection between the Towns of Clinton and the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Rail Road, earnestly solicit the friends of the contemplated improvement, to meet them in the Court House in the Town of Clinton, on SATURDAY, 11th DAY OF AUGUST, 1885, at 11 o'clock, A. M., to devise the ways and means for commencing and carrying through a work so much needed.

- W. H. Cobb, J. R. Jackson, Isaac N. Lemon, Edward Story, David Barfield, D. C. Hardee, G. A. Neafus, B. T. Hamilton, F. Hardesty, James H. Myers, John Shelton, Ira McCog, Wm. C. Silliman, O. P. Langworthy, Edward Delony, E. Rogillo, James H. Worsham, W. W. Chapman, Frank W. Ober, Jas. O. Fuqua, Frank & Pool, T. F. D'Armond, J. G. G. D'Armond, Wm. H. O'Riley, H. B. Chase, C. M. Smith, Seymour Taylor, Jas. W. Haygood, J. H. Hatch, I. G. Gayden, John F. Overton, Sam'l J. Norwood, A. T. Rowley, Monroe Perkins, Norwood Tildon, W. Fergus Kernan, B. F. Clifford, Henry Hawford, A. Meyer, A. Worms, H. M. Harrell, M. Meyer, Jas. A. Campbell, A. J. Goig, John B. Taylor, D. C. McMillan, John M. Bell, E. B. Petties, Jas. S. Taylor, V. H. Dunn, A. M. Heymann, H. S. Nichols, J. M. Stokes, Wm. Sadler, C. H. Porter, Isaac N. DeLee, Preston Pond, Jr., J. A. Donnelly, Peter G. Quinn, Eli S. Norwood, John Nettles, R. F. Lucas, John L. Delee, T. H. W. Baynard, B. W. Fauver, G. W. Flenniken, P. G. Herby, G. M. Somers, E. D. Craig, A. B. McKie, Wm. Silliman, J. F. George, W. G. McEhee, W. Edgar Halker, John K. Bell, John P. Haucy, Moses & Co., John Dunbar, Rufus Brooks, I. T. Flynn, R. A. Jackson, S. W. New, Wm. Gurney, A. Levi, Bloom & Co., Elythel Haynes, W. D. Carter, John Offutt, C. F. Currie, William C. Tait, Samuel Lee, Richard Markham, O. W. Adams, Wm. Patterson, Noel Norwood, Archibald Tracy, John East, R. Perry, William East, E. T. Merrick, David Pipes, Sr., T. B. Harris, E. W. Donnegan, M. Harris, H. Skipwith, G. W. Reese, C. T. Dunn, Jas. Young.