

The Convention of National Democrats of New Mexico.

We publish to-day, in another part of our paper, the proceedings of the National Democratic Convention, which convened at Albuquerque on Monday the 9th instant; and we particularly invite the attention of our readers to the resolutions adopted by the Convention.

They form a platform of principles upon which any sound Democrat may stand. They embrace in a concise form most of the doctrines that now govern the National Democratic party of the United States, especially those relating to the rights of the States. These doctrines should be understood by every intelligent citizen of the Territory, so that we may act understandingly when the time arrives for our admission as one of the States of the Union.

The Convention was fully and ably represented, and the Delegates gave assurance that the best feeling prevailed among the National Democrats in all the counties of the Territory; and that they were determined to render a good account in favor of Mr. Otero, at the next September election.

It was the second Convention ever held in Albuquerque, and was, beyond question, the first in respectability that ever assembled in the Territory. We have attended many Conventions of a similar character in the States, and we can safely state that we never before witnessed one conducted with more propriety, or that was more respectable in appearance.

After the adjournment the members were invited to an elegant entertainment at the large and commodious public house of Mr. Pool, given by the delegation from Bernalillo county. The dinner and wines would have done credit in any part of the Union; and in point of liberality could not be exceeded any where. More than a hundred persons sat down to the dinner table, and notwithstanding the wine was in the greatest abundance, and of the best quality, we saw no one intoxicated—not an unkind word spoken, even against our political opponents. Speeches were made by several gentlemen, and many appropriate sentiments drawn amidst the greatest enthusiasm, but during the whole time the most perfect decorum reigned; and we take this occasion, on behalf of the members of the Convention, to tender their united thanks to the Bernalillo Delegation, and to acknowledge that they know how to entertain their friends handsomely and liberally. If they will only "roll up the votes" for Mr. Otero at the next September election, in the proportion to their loyalty we will have nothing to fear from Bernalillo county.

We have no room this week to say any thing on the subject of the present organization of the National Democratic party—an organization that we feel sure will result in the overthrow of Demagoguism, and the advancement of the interests of our hitherto neglected Territory.

Albuquerque, N. M., March 17th 1857.

Sir:

A Mexican from La Joya, came here on Monday of last week, saying that on Tuesday, a party of ten (10) men from Casa Colorado, were out at the mountains, with teams and carretas for wood, that the Indians came upon them, and killed nine of the men, and drove off thirty oxen.

I was unwilling to believe it probable, that the butchery had been done, but thought that the robbing of the stock, had likely occurred. On Friday, Mr. Gorman of Laguna, arrived here, from a trip down the river. He informed us, that he slept opposite Casa Colorado, the night before, on the west side of the Rio Grande, that it was true, that the party that went for wood, were all killed by the Indians, except one man, who escaped to tell the fate of his comrades. That thirty oxen were driven away by the Indians, that the bodies of the nine men butchered, had been found by the inhabitants, and brought into the settlements, and on that night were lying unburied, at Casa Colorado. Mr. Gorman had taken, in writing, the names of all of them, and named the names in town. Mr. Clark, Forage-master for the government, at Laguna, returned on Saturday night, from the county of Valencia, where the killing and robbery occurred. He confirms all the previous statements. The bodies of the deceased, were buried on Friday. It appears the Mexicans were unarmed, that they turned to flee for the settlements, when they were attacked, that the Indians followed and slew them as they fled, and that the one last killed, was found dead, but a short distance beyond the settlements. Mr. Clark also reports, that during the same week, and while he was down there, the Indians came within three miles of Los Lunas, and drove off two herds that the number stolen were not then known.

The inhabitants had raised a company of their neighbors, and gone in pursuit of the stock and Indians. Other depredations are spoken of, of recent occurrence in the county of Socorro. The measures instituted by Colonel Bonnevillie, to correct the evils, that seem thickening around the Rio Abajo, are looked for by the inhabitants, with feelings full of confidence and hope.

I remain yours truly, KIRBY BENEDICT.

General Convention of the National Democracy of the Territory of New Mexico.

The National Democrats of the Territory of New Mexico, by Delegates from the several counties, convened at Albuquerque in the County of Bernalillo, on Monday the 9th day of March, 1857.

On motion of the Hon. Hugh N. Smith of the county of Santa Fe, Don Juan X. Gutierrez of the county of San Miguel, was temporarily called to the chair, and Don Jesus Maria Sena y Baca appointed Secretary.

On motion of C. P. Clever, Esq. of Santa Fe county, a committee of one member from each county was appointed to examine credentials and report the Delegations from the several counties. The committee was composed as follows: C. P. Clever of Santa Fe county, Pedro Valdez of Taos, Diego Archuleta of Rio Arriba, Faustín Baca y Uibarrí of San Miguel, Francisco Sandobal of Santa Ana, Ambrosio Armijo of Bernalillo, Filomeno Sanchez of Valencia, and Juan Montoya of Socorro.

On motion of J. H. Mink, of Rio Arriba, the committee was instructed to present a list of the names of those composing the Delegation from the several counties.

C. P. Clever, chairman of the committee on credentials, made the following report.

The committee created to examine the credentials of the members of this Convention, have the honor to report that they find duly elected from the county of Taos, Messrs.

- Gabriel Vigil, Alexander Hecklin, Pedro Valdez, John Mostin, Francisco Gonzalez, Francisco Raci, Benigno Valdez, Buenaventura Lobato, Joaquin Garcia, Miguel Griego, Matias Medina, Gabriel Lucero, David Webster, Francisco Romero and Guadalupe Lujan.

From the county of Rio Arriba.

- Messrs. Diego Archuleta, Antonio Ma. Pacheco, Jose Valdez, Jose de la Luz Lujan, John H. Mink, Manuel Trujillo, Juan Garcia, Luciano de Herrera, Pedro Salazar, Teodoro Maest, Jose E. Ortiz, and Francisco Martinez.

From the county of San Miguel.

- Messrs. Pablo Antonio Sena, Manuel de Herrera, Juan Gutierrez, Antonio Abad de Herrera, Juan P. Martinez, Faustín Baca y Uibarrí, Sebastian Gonzales, Juan Maria Baca and Nasario Gallego.

From the county of Santa Ana.

- Jesus Sandobal and Francisco Armijo.

From the county of Santa Fe.

- H. N. Smith, Finis F. Kavanaugh, Vicente Garcia, Antonio Tafoya, Jesus Ma. Sena y Baca, Chas. E. Whilden, Thom. K. McCutchen, Felipe Delgado, Victor Garcia, Luis Griego, J. L. Collins, C. P. Clever and Nasario Gonzalez.

From the county of Bernalillo.

- Jose Chavez y Castillo, Henry Connelly, Juan Perea, Sidney A. Hubbell, Pedro Aranda, Jose Leandro Perea, Juan C. Armijo, Manuel Armijo y Mestas and Ambrosio Armijo.

From the county of Valencia.

- Juan Salazar, Filomeno Sanchez, Pablo Pino, and Jose Maria Baca.

From the county of Socorro.

- Juan Montoya and Vicente Pino.

The report was unanimously adopted, and on the motion of Mr. Hubbell of Bernalillo, a committee was appointed, consisting of Francisco Gonzalez, of Taos, Diego Archuleta, of Rio Arriba, J. L. Collins of Santa Fe, Manuel Herrera of San Miguel, Jesus Sandobal of Santa Ana, Jose Chavez y Castillo of Bernalillo, Juan Salazar of Valencia, and Juan Montoya of Socorro, to report the names of suitable persons to act as officers to the Convention.

On motion the Convention took a recess for an hour.

At the appointed hour the Convention was again called to order, when Francisco Gonzalez, chairman of the committee created to report upon the permanent officers of the Convention, made the following report: "The committee raised for the purpose of reporting permanent officers for the government of the

Convention, beg leave to report the following:

- For President, Diego Archuleta, For Vice-Presidents, Juan Gutierrez, Juan Perea, Hugh N. Smith, Juan Montoya. For Secretaries, Pedro Valdez, Juan Pablo Martinez, Vicente Garcia, Jesus Maria Sena y Baca.

On motion the report was received and unanimously adopted, and the vote taken separately on each, when they were severally declared duly elected.

Mr. Archuleta on taking the chair, thanked the Convention in a very appropriate and handsome manner for the honor conferred upon him, by being chosen to preside over the Convention. He briefly and happily explained the objects for which the convention was called, and concluded by tendering his sincere congratulations, at finding the several counties of the Territory so fully and ably represented; he stated that he looked with renewed satisfaction upon the prospect of the future predominance of the National Democratic faith in our hitherto neglected Territory; when he took his seat amid the enthusiastic cheers of the Convention.

On motion a committee was appointed consisting of C. P. Clever, Sidney A. Hubbell, and Jose Leandro Perea, to draft rules for the government of the Convention.

When on motion the Convention adjourned until 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Evening Session.

At 3 o'clock the Convention was called to order, when Mr. Clever the chairman of the committee upon rules, reported the following resolutions: Resolved, that the rules of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Territory be adopted for the government of the Convention.

Resolved, That a vote of two thirds of all the members of the Convention shall be necessary to a choice for the nomination of a Candidate for Delegate to the National Congress. The report was adopted.

A committee of one member from each county was appointed to draft a Platform of principles for the government of the National Democrats of New Mexico; which was composed as follows:

- C. P. Clever of Santa Fe county, J. H. Mink of Rio Arriba, Gabriel Vigil of Taos, Faustín Baca of San Miguel, Jesus Sandobal of Santa Ana, Juan C. Armijo of Bernalillo, Juan Salazar of Valencia, and Juan Montoya of Socorro.

During the evening Mr. Hubbell, Dr. Connelly and others were called up and severally addressed the Convention amid enthusiastic applause.

On motion of Hugh N. Smith the Convention adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Tuesday morning, 9 o'clock, March 10th 1857: The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and being called to order by the President, the proceedings of yesterday were read, approved and adopted. Mr. Clever chairman of the committee on the Platform of principles, reported the following for the consideration of the Convention.

WHEREAS, It is customary in all the States and Territories of the Union, when there is a Democratic organization, to lay down a platform of Principles for the government of the Democrats composing such organization; and,

WHEREAS, The National Democrats of the Territory of NEW MEXICO, by Delegates chosen in the several Counties in accordance with the usages of the party, have convened at Albuquerque, in the County of Bernalillo, for the purpose of forming an organization and establishing a Platform for the government of the Democrats in said Territory, do hereby agree to adopt the following:

RESOLVED, That the Democracy has no secret and requires no concealment, and while it publicly avows as a fundamental principle, freedom of conscience without distinction of religious faith, with political equality of all whom the law recognizes as Americans, without reference to the accident of birth, it relies alone for success upon honest and open discussion, and the intelligence of the people: we therefore, denounce as corrupting in their influence all secret combinations and falsehood, reprehensible in their objects and unmanly and dishonorable to those who wish to attain their political ends by such means.

RESOLVED, That we believe in the cardinal doctrine of popular sovereignty—that we recognize in its broadest sense as

just and salutary the principle that to the people of the Territories belongs of right the prerogative of regulating for themselves their own domestic and local affairs within the limits of the Constitution, and that we will claim the application of this principle to the Territory of New Mexico in reference to her admission into the Union as a State.

RESOLVED, That the Constitution of the United States is founded upon the fundamental principle of entire and absolute equality among all the States of the Union, and it is not competent for Congress or any other power to impose upon new States coming into the Union any condition or restriction in respect to their domestic institutions or internal concerns which the Federal Constitution has not imposed upon the original States; and any effort on the part of Congress or any other power to violate this principle in reference to New Mexico will be met by the National Democracy within her limits as an attempt to trample upon the Constitution and the rights of the people.

RESOLVED, That although aware of the many advantages that would be secured to New Mexico by her admission as a State, yet we do not regard it as proper or expedient to ask for her admission until she is exempt from Indian depredations, and can have the freedom of her agricultural, pastoral, and mineral resources in which she so much abounds, and until her people are better able to meet the expenses incident to a State Government.

RESOLVED, That the Democracy of New Mexico, most earnestly and unreservedly avows the principles of the National platform proposed by the National Democracy of the United States in June 1856, and will—so far as to become the citizens of a Territory—vote with the Democracy of the whole country in its maintenance. This creed embodies the most cherished principles of our party, and must commend itself to the patriotism and good sense, not only of every Democrat, but to every friend of our beloved country.

RESOLVED, That we are proud to carry our names as Democrats under the banner of James Buchanan and John C. Breckinridge—into whose hands the Executive Branch of the Federal Government has so recently passed—and we most earnestly pledge the Democracy of our Territory to the support of the administration of Mr. Buchanan.

RESOLVED, That the Democracy of New Mexico cannot more plainly express their appreciation of sound Democratic Principles than by endorsing the resolutions adopted by the Democracy of Santa Fe County on the 24th of January last; and we rejoice in the belief that the sentiments of those resolutions meet the cordial response of every friend of New Mexico.

RESOLVED, That we unite with our Democratic friends in the counties of Taos and Rio Arriba in the belief that the prosperity of our Territory mainly depends upon the permanent subjection of the Indian tribes within her borders; and that we will unite in urging upon the Government of the United States the necessity of more energetic measures for the attainment of this important object; and in this connection it is proper to state that we disapprove, entirely, the course of policy that has been and is still being pursued by the present Governor and Superintendent, David Meriwether, in his management of these barbarous tribes—we believe it is calculated to encourage a system of thieving on the part of the Indians rather than to inculcate the propriety of abstaining from such pursuits. We also condemn a highly improper and dishonorable on the part of the Superintendent his attempts to discredit the information forwarded to him in reference to robberies committed by these rapacious tribes.

RESOLVED, That we endorse the resolutions adopted by the Democracy of Santa Fe County on the 24th of January last, in reference to the Atlantic and Pacific railroad, and we recognize the proposition submitted to Congress by our Delegate Mr. Otero, asking grants of land to Missouri, Kansas, and New Mexico, as the one best calculated to secure the location of the road through our Territory.

RESOLVED, That we regard it as an obligation on the General Government to open an easy and permanent communication between our Territory and the States of the Union; and the interests of our citizens and the honor of the Government both demand that the Indians, which now infest the line of communication with the States, should be removed or held in check by strong military posts, located at suitable points upon the route.

RESOLVED, That we regard the right of suffrage as one of the highest political privileges guaranteed to us as freemen, and any attempt to disturb or embarrass a citizen in

the free exercise of this right, should be considered, not only as Anti-Democratic, but as a high political crime, which should be met by all Democrats, and treated as an attempt to destroy the sovereignty of the people.

RESOLVED, That we endorse the sentiment that the various offices for New Mexico, should be filled by citizens and permanent residents of the Territory; and as our party knows no distinction of races, we regard it as proper that the officers, both Federal and Territorial, should be conferred without distinction on Americans and Mexicans; and we also endorse the sentiment that the offices of the Government are created for the benefit of the people and that they have the right to demand of the Government through their representative, the appointment from among themselves of their public functionaries, and have the same right to demand the displacement of those who prove unfaithful or inefficient as public servants.

On motion the Platform as reported and read, was agreed to and adopted without a dissenting voice.

The Convention then proceeded to the nomination of a Candidate for Delegate to the National Congress, when Mr. Sebastian Gonzales of San Miguel, nominated the Honorable Manuel Antonio Otero, and the vote being taken by yeas and nays, Mr. Otero was unanimously declared the Candidate of the National Democratic party, for re-election, to fill the seat of Delegate during the 35th Congress of the United States.

Mr. Juan Gutierrez of San Miguel offered the following resolution, which was also unanimously adopted. Resolved, That we unanimously recommend Colonel James L. Collins of Santa Fe, to the President of the United States, as a person well qualified to fill the office of Governor of New Mexico, and respectfully request his appointment.

Don Jesus Maria Sena y Baca offered the following resolutions which were also adopted.

Resolved, That the Delegates in this Convention from Santa Fe county is constituted the central corresponding committee for the National Democracy of New Mexico, and the President of this Convention is constituted the chairman of the committee.

Resolved, That the Delegations in this Convention from the several counties are constituted corresponding committees for their respective counties.

Resolved, That the Central corresponding committee is hereby instructed to inform the Hon. Miguel Antonio Otero, of his nomination by this Convention as the Candidate of the National Democrats for Delegate to Congress, and to present him with a copy of the Platform adopted by this Convention, and with a copy of these proceedings.

Don Francisco Gonzalez offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the printed copies of the proceedings of this Convention be published in the Santa Fe Gazette, and distributed in the several counties in the Territory in proportion to the number of Delegates from each of such counties, in this Convention, for the use of the people.

Don Pedro Valdez offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That the thanks of his convention be unanimously tendered to the President, Vice Presidents, and Secretaries for the able manner in which they have discharged their several duties as officers of the Convention.

Hugh N. Smith Esq, Francisco Gonzalez, John H. Mink, Juan C. Armijo, C. P. Clever, Juan Gutierrez, Jose Leandro Perea, Jesus Sena y Baca, Sebastian Gonzales, Manuel de Herrera, Diego Archuleta, and others were severally called up during the morning, and addressed the Convention, explaining in strong and forcible terms the object and necessity of the present organization. The speakers were often interrupted by loud and enthusiastic applause.

On motion of Hugh N. Smith Esq, the Convention adjourned sine die.

- DIEGO ARCHULETA, President, JUAN GUTIERRES, HUGH N. SMITH, JUAN PEREA, JUAN MONTOYA, Vice-Presidents.

- PEDRO VALDEZ, JUAN PABLO MARTINEZ, VICENTE GARCIA, JESUS Ma. SENA y BACA, Secretaries

(Para la Gaceta.)

Quiere el Hon. J. J. Deavenport Juez Presidente tener la bondad de indagar, ó causar una indagacion por el Gran Jurado, ahora en sesion, de los siguientes asuntos:

1º. Que hizo el Prefecto del condado de Santa Fe, con la orden de la Corte de Distrito, remitiendo la lista de los vagos, presentados por el Gran Jurado de la corte de distrito