

LIBERTY WEEKLY TRIBUNE.

BY ROBT. H. MILLER.

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Ed. TRIBUNE.—The Clay County Court, under the provisions of an act of the 2d Monday in June next, to ascertain the will of the people of Clay, as to whether they will submit to be taxed \$200,000 for the purpose of building a Railroad from a point opposite Kansas City, to intersect the H. & St. Jo. R. R., at or near Cameron.

The propriety is one—just at this time—of very weighty interest to tax payers; and one that should be well understood and acted upon at the polls, only after a calm deliberation.

The general circulation of your paper makes it the best medium of communicating upon this subject with citizens in all parts of the county, and I trust your columns will be freely open for that purpose.

Voters of Clay county, I address myself to you. The matter is well worthy of your investigation. Do you understand, in its full length and breadth, the character of the proposition to be submitted, and are you acquainted with its objects and its ultimate ends? I feel confident you are not.

No doubt you, many of you, at least, suppose that if you vote for it and the proposition carries, you are then to pay the \$200,000, and, in return, you are to get the proposed Railroad. Some of you perhaps are credulous enough to believe that you will not even have the money to pay it all—or but a small part of it—that the county is simply loaning her credit to the road until the road shall earn enough to pay the bonds. All this has been told to us; the friends of the measure, in their ardent zeal, have even dropped the hint that the project would become a permanent source of revenue to the county. I have no doubt they are sincere in what they say—for they are "honorable men"—but unless they can produce more solid data than the record now exhibits, practical men will be slow to believe that these comfortable hopes rest upon any but an airy foundation.

This is a difference, my friends and fellow-tax payers, between loose statements and prudent speculations, put forth under the spur of an interested enthusiasm, whether made on the street or in a public speech, and stern, closely documented facts. Warm imaginations, pricked on by self interest, can create lively images out of very scanty materials. And statements thus made are worth nothing when they go beyond the record. And what is this record? A few prominent citizens of Liberty, on the first day of the Circuit Court, caused (without previous notice) a spontaneous assembly of all the uninited who happened to be about the court house. The prominent citizens aforesaid, and other friends of the scheme about Liberty, (by mere accident, of course,) were present, and composed, perhaps, a majority of the meeting. Gen. Doniphan and Mr. Moss were among the speakers, and between the two, as I understand it, the following statement was made:

That the President of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Company had made the proposition to Mr. Samuels, that if Kansas City would subscribe \$200,000, Clay county the same, and Clinton county \$50,000—making in all, \$450,000, in bonds—the said company would furnish the residue—computed at \$400,000 more—making a total of \$850,000; which amount partly in bonds, as aforesaid, partly in rolling stock, and partly in anything else, was somehow "by hook or by crook," to construct a Railroad from Kansas City, Liberty, to the H. & St. Jo. road, near Cameron, in Clinton county. Clay county was to spend her own money in her own county, and to have certain directors.—The proposition was a verbal one, or, at least, no contract was signed by the said company, nor any guarantee given. One other proposition was laid before the meeting, embodied in a couple of resolutions and which ran in this manner: "That we (the people then assembled) are in favor of our county court ordering an election to be held, on the first Monday in June, to take the sense of the voters of Clay county, as to whether this county will subscribe \$200,000 to aid in building a Railroad through Clay co."

These resolutions were published in the Liberty Tribune of the same week. They excited some comment at the time, and our sober-minded tax payers of Fishing River and Washington began to enquire what equivalent they were getting for their \$40,000. But our nerves were unshaken. We supposed, at least, that we would get a Railroad through Clay county. The "Doctors" at Liberty had told us that the President of the H. & St. Jo. R. R. would be in Liberty, and would bring his corps of surveyors, and would enter into written stipulations, guaranteeing their part of the contract.—We were subsequently told that he had been there; that he had stated his inability to make any contract binding the said company; but that he made certain assurances in writing, which he gave his assurance the company would ratify. We supposed the proposition would be submitted to the voters of this county, and, with this little digression, I return to the record. Just before the 1st of May of the county court, there appeared in the Tribune, an article signed Justice, understood to be from the pen of our distinguished fellow-citizen, Col. Adams. The writer proposed to the Doctors aforesaid, that if they would ask the county court to open a poll and take the sense of the people, as to a tax of \$240,000—\$200,000 for the Railroad; \$20,000 to the building of a turnpike from Missouri City to Haynesville; \$12,000 to building a turnpike from Missouri City to Liberty; \$8,000 to building a pike from Missouri City to the Ray county line.

He pledged the vote of Fishing River to the whole proposition. He also suggested, that as an act of justice, \$50,000 be raised at the same time, for the Parkville & Grand River Railroad. Well, the court met; the Doctors refused to accede to the proposition of Col. Adams, and presented their petition, which, after a day's debate, was granted; and what is that petition? It begets a whereas about a certain meeting, at which certain resolutions were passed, (which resolutions are approved,) and by asking the court to order an election, and submit to the people of Clay, the proposition of granting our bonds to the amount of \$200,000 to the "Galveston, Kansas City and Lake Superior Railroad Company!" Tax payers of Clay, the proposition submitted to you on the 2d Monday in June, is just as you see and misshapen a thing as that contained in the resolutions of the Liberty meeting. The paying of this \$200,000 out of your own pockets, rests upon no condition, is secured by no guarantee.—You are asked to "go it blind," and vote yourselves a tax for an alleged purpose; but you have no security that your money will ever be appropriated to that purpose. Who are the "Galveston, Kansas City and Lake Superior Railroad Company?" In what manner are our bonds to be made available, and for how much? How are Kansas City bonds to be appropriated?—Where is the balance of the \$550,000 to come from? I do not doubt the sincerity of our friends in Liberty, but I put no faith in any irresponsible offers held forth by the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad Company. Corporations have no souls, and Railroad Corporations least of any; and gentleman voters, I hope that when we meet at the polls, in June next, we will come with our eyes open.

Ex-Gov. King.

Ex-Gov. King was one of the leaders at Charleston. He is a warm Douglas man, and succeeded in carrying his bill the delegation for Douglas against Gen. Clark and the administration. He made a bully speech when the platform were under discussion. It was a long speech, and some of the writers styled him the "old man eloquent," but in looking it over, we only found an decided trinket in it, and that is contained in the following extract:

"The majority report had a sting of death in it. He would vote for the minority report as a substitute. All the money want is the Cincinnati platform without any tail to it. He spoke of Black Republicans as men who are as sharp as men usually get, and said they would ridicule their majority platform as Janus faced and contradictory. So far as Missouri is concerned they can carry it, even clogged with this deadly sting, as they always go to blind for the Democratic nominee, but he could plainly see that his border neighbors would be destroyed by its venom."

Three cheers for the blind democracy of Missouri. King knows them!—Glasgow Times.

PERFUMES.—The French prepare more perfumes than any other people. In the South of France and in Piedmont, vast crops of flowers are grown. Cannes and Nice furnish yearly about 13,000 lbs of violet blossoms. Both cities are famous also, for their orange blossoms, the latter producing 100,000 lbs, and the former double that quantity, and of a finer odor.—Cannes abounds, too, in the Acacia Farnesiana, and affords yearly 9,000 lbs of fine scented blossoms. Careful treatment is required to extract the essential oils. These are so largely mingled with other vegetable juices, that 600 lbs, of rose leaves yield only about an ounce of otto of roses. The orange blossoms, however, is richer, and 500 lbs of flowers yield about two lbs. of Neroli oil. One perfume manufactory at Cannes requires yearly about 140,000 lbs. of orange blossoms, and 20,000 lbs. of acacia blossoms, 140,000 lbs. of rose leaves, 32,000 lbs. of violets, and 8,000 lbs. of tuberoses, besides many other fragrant materials.

HOUS POISONED IN LOCUSTS.—This is the year for the appearance of the seventeen year locusts. Professor Smith says they will occupy the "middle of St. Mary's county, Md.," but as yet they have not made their appearance. The Leonard-ton Beacon, however, states that they are known to be about a foot under ground, and that they are in this county have already died in consequence of eating them. In the Patent section we learn the mortality has been great from this cause. A gentleman in the Factory district lost nine hives of bees from the same cause. A view of these facts we would suggest the paying of logs, at least until the 10th of May, at which time, Professor Smith says, they will emerge from the earth."

No GRABBING ALLOWED.—Some time ago, Heber Kimball was lecturing some Missionaries who were preparing to start out on foreign missions, in the tabernacle, and said to them: "Brethren, I want you to understand that it has been heretofore, The brother missionaries have been in the habit of picking out the prettiest woman for themselves before they get here, and bringing on the ugly ones for us; hereafter you have to bring them all here; before taking any of them, and let us have a fair shake."

Hon. Thomas Sargeant, a prominent citizen of Philadelphia, died in that city last week, in his 69th year. He had been Attorney General of Pennsylvania, and was one of the most eminent members of the Philadelphia bar.

ANECDOTE OF DANIEL WEBSTER.—Daniel Webster, when a boy, liked reading a great deal better than work, and sometimes tried to avoid working with great ingenuity. His father, once going from home for a day or two, told his older brother Ezekiel, to hop potatoes during his absence, and charged Daniel to "help Zeke." Ezekiel, absorbed in study and play, neglected the potatoes and when his father returned, asked him what he had been doing, replied very sheepishly "Nothing, sir!" "What have you been doing, Daniel?" "Helping Zeke, as you told me, sir!"

National Union Convention.

BALTIMORE, May 8. Delegates to the Constitutional Convention, to assemble to-morrow, are arriving in considerable numbers, and the hotels are filling up. The old First Presbyterian Church building, recently bought by the Government for a court house, has been finely fitted up for the accommodation of the Convention. A full length portrait of Washington has been placed behind the President's chair, and the interior of the building is draped with flags.

BALTIMORE, May 9. This presents an animated appearance. Many strangers are in town and the headquarters of the delegates are thronged.—There is a great rush for tickets of admission. Delegates from every State except Oregon and South Carolina have reported themselves, some in advance of the arrival expecting to reach here to-day. The hall presents a gay appearance. The galleries are festooned with red, white and blue.—The best gallery is appropriated to the ladies.

By noon the galleries were densely packed, and much enthusiasm was manifested as the delegation appeared and occupied the seats allotted to them. At noon the Convention was called to order by John J. Crittenden, whose appearance was greeted with loud and prolonged cheering. Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. John McCarr. Mr. Crittenden moved that Hon. Washington Hunt, of New York, take the chair, which was unanimously adopted. Mr. Hunt, on taking the chair, delivered a powerful address, designating the slavery question as that which the Democratic party a miserable abstraction. He believed that this Convention has power to rally around it the patriots of the country. On motion of Leslie Combs; a Committee on Permanent Organization was appointed, also one on Credentials. The Committee on Organization have retired, and the Convention has taken a recess till 4 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION. The Convention resumed at 4 o'clock, when the Committee on Permanent Organization reported the following list of officers: President, Washington Hunt; Vice Presidents, one each from nineteen States, including Marshall P. Wilder of Massachusetts, F. A. Tallmadge of New York; Peter J. Clark of New Jersey, James R. Ingersoll of Pennsylvania, Alexander H. H. Stewart of Virginia, W. Thompson of Indiana, and J. Scott Harrison of Ohio; also eleven Secretaries.

The announcement of the names was received with applause, and the nominations were confirmed by acclamation. Mr. Hunt returned thanks in a pertinent address. Chas. Lathrop, of Pa., moved to proceed to ballot for a candidate for President. Ed. Shippin, of Pa., offered a substitute that each State nominate a candidate for President, and the Convention proceed to ballot, and drop the candidate having the smallest number of votes on each ballot until a result is reached. Mr. Randolph, of New Jersey, moved that Hon. Lewis Condit of New Jersey, be made honorary Vice President. Carried by acclamation. Mr. Harris, of Missouri, said he desired an opportunity to confer with the delegations from the various States, to find out who was the best man to put forward. He wanted time for intercourse, and therefore thought the proposition to proceed to ballot, premature. We should appoint a committee to prepare a declaration of principles, to serve as a basis upon which a great and permanent party could be established.—There were immense responsibilities resting upon us, and we should set with deliberation and care. Joe S. Little, of Pa., advocated the passage of Mr. Stephens' resolution. Mr. Goggin, of Va., moved that Hon. J. Crittenden be invited to take a seat on the platform, which was carried with applause. N. G. Penclator, of Ohio, was satisfied that they could act more harmoniously if time was allotted delegates to consult together. He moved an amendment that a committee of one from each State be appointed to whom each delegation indicates its preferences so as to secure unity of action.

Fred. W. Grayson, of Pennsylvania, thought when he came here they had more important work than the Presidency. They had to organize a great National party, and when it triumphed he wanted it to do so upon principles. No matter what his antecedents were, no man who did not stand fairly upon the platform of recognized principles. The interposition and meaning of the Constitution were involved in the contest between the two existing parties. They differed as to whether Congress had power to legislate slavery in the Territories. [Hisss.] He was not going into this subject. [Laughter.] What he meant was that this Union Party should ignore that disturbing issue; therefore, before they nominate, they should plant themselves on a Platform of constitutional principles. [Applause.] Leslie Combs was so thoroughly impressed with the importance of a platform that he had prepared three, for the Democratic Republican and constitutional parties. For harmonious Democracy he would present the Virginia resolutions of 1793, an '99, with two resolutions on slavery, one to keep it out of the Territories, and one to force it into them, to be adopted under the force of these questions, and no questions asked afterwards.

The second of the "irrepressible conflict" platformers he proposed the Blue Laws of Connecticut with two modifications, in regard to kissing wives of Sunday, and burning witches, it being understood that all pretty wives might be kissed and all old witches burned. [Great Laughter.] For the Constitutional Union party, and the Union now and forever. [Great applause.] Mr. Brister, of Pa., moved an amendment to the amendment that individuals be delegated to the different delegations to be a hand in the nomination. If a majority of a delegation controls the presentation of names, the minority would not be heard.

Mr. Watson, of Miss., advocated going into nomination to-morrow at 10 A. M. Mr. Swan, of Maryland, seconded the views of the last speaker. If the question of platform was opened, there was much to be said. He wanted no other platform in Maryland, but the constitution and the laws.

The Chair announced that a delegation from Texas had just arrived, and was waiting at the door. The delegates entered, and were received with three cheers.

Gen. Combs begged leave to introduce the chairman of the Texas delegation, the man with hair on his face and head, who had sworn two years ago not to have his beard or hair cut till Henry Clay was elected President. [Laughter and applause.] Mr. Switzer, of Mo., said his State would not platform, but would be satisfied with the proper candidate. C. H. Hopkins, of Ga., would suggest a platform in one word—one on which three millions of people could stand, and that was Houston, of Texas, the hero, of San Jacinto. [Applause.] He was the man for the crisis and one whose life furnished a platform.

Erasmus Brooks, of New York, did not propose to discuss the merits of candidates or platforms. He thought and unfortunate this afternoon he brought and unfortunate. Speaking for seventy delegates from New York, he desired to say that he wanted no platform but the Constitution, interpreted by constituted authorities. He trusted they would take such action that neither the extremists of the North nor South would be permitted to administer the Government. It is wise to learn by experience to be just and tolerant towards each other. Experience showed that party platforms were to decide people to wear one face at the North and another at the South. The true platform was the Constitution, as interpreted by its judicial authorities.—Whatever they did, should be decently and in order. He urged the appointment of a General Committee, who should receive all expressions of opinion, and make a report, which he believed would be unanimous.—The head of the country are heart-sick and people-sick. What are party platforms? At Charleston, the Democracy utterly denounced their own forgery on New York. The Republicans had two classes, one conservative, in favor of the Fugitive Slave law, and address themselves to merchants and the manufacturing class; another class who preached higher law in the rural districts. He concluded by a motion that the rules of the Convention be adopted, as far as they were applicable for the government of the Convention. All pending resolutions were adopted. Mr. Brooks then moved the appointment of a committee of one from each State, to prepare business for the Convention, to whom all resolutions be referred, and who shall report to-morrow at ten o'clock.—Adopted.

The Committee was then named as follows: Alabama, A. Alexander; Conn, Austin Baldwin; Delaware, Chas. G. Cullen; Ga., Hon. J. Hill; Ind., R. W. Thompson; Ill., Jno. Wilson; Ky., C. F. Burnham; N. H., S. C. Wise; Me., Geo. E. B. Jackson; Mass., A. S. Lewis; Md., Geo. A. Ferry; Minn., T. J. Barnet; Miss., Jno. W. Watson; Mo., Thos. Harris; N. Y., Erasmus Brooks; N. J., J. R. Randolph; N. C., R. S. Dannel; O., W. G. Penclator; Penn., J. R. Ingersoll; Texas, A. B. Morton; Tennessee, Baile Peyton; Vermont, John Whistler; Virginia, Robt. I. Scott; Arkansas, M. S. Kennard.

The Chair announced that the Committee would meet at eight o'clock to-morrow morning, at the Eatow House. Adjourned till 10 A. M. to-morrow.

BALTIMORE, May 9. The proceedings of the Convention have thus far been harmonious. The Houston men desired a ballot to-night. They are more numerous than the supporters of any other candidate. Mr. Bell is second.—The contest between them is animated.—McLean will have some votes, but all idea of nominating him or any one else, with reference to the Chicago Convention, is dropped.

Two-thirds of the New York delegation are for Mr. Houston. They are for Mr. Everett for Vice President. The Pennsylvania delegation is divided between Bell and Houston. So is the South generally, Kentucky being unanimous for Houston.—It is predicted that he will be nominated at an early stage of the balloting. Nobody is for Bots. The attempt to bring him forward, failed.

10:30 P. M.—The friends of Bell and McLean are encouraged by diversions from Mr. Houston, whose supporters are somewhat alarmed at the Platform Committee having unanimously agreed to report the Union, the Constitution and the Enforcement of the Laws as a Platform.—It is expected that the Convention will be satisfied with this.

BALTIMORE, May 10. The Convention met at 10 o'clock.—The Chair presented a letter from Judge Chambers, of Maryland, expressing regret at not being able to attend, and hoping that a wise and patriotic result would be attained; also a telegram from Washington from W. C. Hayes Foack, of New York, arguing the Constitution and Washington's Farewell Address as a sufficient platform.

On motion, the present National Committee was authorized to select the place of meeting of the next National Convention.

Mr. Hunt, in a few brief remarks, tendered his acknowledgements for the courtesy and kindness with which he had been treated as a presiding officer, and congratulated the Convention on the happy issue of their labors. The Convention adjourned sine die.

After the final adjournment, an informal meeting took place in Monument Square, where extensive preparations had been in progress for several days for a grand ratification meeting, owing to the unfavorable weather and the incomplete state of the arrangements. Has been postponed till to-morrow night. Notwithstanding the weather, there was quite a large gathering, listening to a speech of Mr. Narian and other members of the Convention.

A SCENE.—Dry good stores are sometimes the scenes of humorous conversation.—The other day a young lady stepped into a well known establishment in town and inquired of a fine looking young clerk: "Sir, have you any mouse colored ladies gloves?" "Mouse-colored ladies, miss!" "Yes—a sort of a gray—just the color of your drawers here," meaning the store drawers of course, which were painted grey.

"My drawers, Miss," ejaculated the young man, glancing downward to see if everything was right and tight. "My drawers, miss why I don't wear any!" The young lady was carried home on a shutter.

SCENE IN THE HOUSE.—PUNING EXTRAORDINARY.—While the Pryor-Potter controversy was going on in Washington, a vote of the House was called upon some minor matters. When Mr. Potter's name was called, an old Dutch member from Pennsylvania, who never takes up time unless he has something to say to the point, rose in his place and spoke Mr. Potter thus: "His honor Speaker, I will shut my ash how Mister Potter hash a Pryor engagement. Both sides of the House and the galleries united in an uproarious explosion of mirth at the honorable member's sally of wit, and it was only checked to be redoubled, when, after the name of Mr. Pryor was called, the same old Hans arose and said: "Vee, Mister Speaker, Mister Pryor hash a gone to be ash kay in the hands of te Potter." For some moments the scene in the House was indescribable, and, for once, five pound bow knives and shoted rifles were at a discount.

From the Winchester (Va.) Chronicle. A New Version of "Old Rossin the Bow" BY WALLACE GUTELLE. Come, boys, let us range round the table, As we did in the years long ago, Fill our glasses, and pour a libation To the memory of Old Rossin the Bow.

Then we'll place his big bellied bottles Before the accident tear drops and flow, Like the one that our hearts moved and melted At the grave of old Rossin the Bow.

Then in silence, and standing, we'll pledge, boys, While the accident tear drops are slow, The memory of the maiden who died of Her grief for old Rossin the Bow.

At a recent sale of autograph letters in London, a letter of George Washington's, the President of the United States, written when a subalterner in the service of the Virginia Government, to the Governor of Virginia, sold for \$15 10.

STREAM GAST MILL.—The citizens of Columbia propose giving \$2,000 for the purpose of procuring the location of a first-class Flouring Mill in Columbia. Persons desiring the subscription will address, Moss Prewitt, Jefferson Garth, or James L. Stephens.

M. Lous Blanc was to appear as a lecturer in London on the 4th inst. The subject of his discourse was this: "On the Mysteries Personages and Agencies in France toward the close of the Eighteenth Century."

METHUSAN'S DISREGARD OF LIFE.—It is written in a quaint old Jewish manuscript now in the British Museum, that the oldest of mankind, Methuselah, did not live as long as he might have done. The writer says that he promised him, in a dream that, if he would rise up and build him a house, his life should be prolonged 500 years. He replied that it was scarcely worth while to build a house for so short a period, and he died before he was 1,000 years old.

How much money a young fellow courted his pretty daughter,—"Oh, I have a very rich prospect, indeed." The wedding occurred, and the old chap learned from his fine son-in-law that the rich prospect was the prospect of marrying his daughter.

An Irishman, who was lately reprieved, as he stated, the night before execution, and who wished to get rid of his wife, wrote to her as follows: "I was yesterday hanged, and died like a hero; do as I did, and bear it like a man."

The Richmond (Ky.) Democrat understands that a man worth over \$100,000, is under arrest in Garrard county for stealing bacon.

Speaking of the vote upon the anti-polligamy bill, Parson Brownlow says he is anxious to see the names of the "sixty men of easy virtue who approved the cause of polygamy."

Mr. Watson, of Mississippi, followed in the endorsement of every word said in the eulogy of Edward Everett. Mr. Wheeler of Vermont, gave the nine votes of his State in favor of Mr. Everett. R. W. Thompson of Indiana, moved that the vote for Mr. Everett be unanimous, and it was carried by acclamation. Mr. Little moved that the President communicate these nominations to Messrs. Bell and Everett.