

Albany Register.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1873.

FARMER'S STATE CONVENTION.

Delegates from the different Farmers' Clubs throughout the State, met in Convention, in the hall of the House of Representatives at Salem, at ten o'clock on Thursday morning of last week.

T. L. Davidson, of Marion county, called the assembly to order, when J. Henry Brown was elected Secretary pro tem.

On motion, the Chair announced as a Committee on Credentials: Tolbert Carter, of Benton; A. D. Babcock, of Polk; John H. Smith, of Linn; D. Clark, of Marion; J. H. Upton, of Yamhill; Thomas Edwards, of Lane, and George Maxwell, of Columbia.

Convention then adjourned until 1 o'clock P. M.

On assembling in the afternoon, the Committee on Credentials reported the following Delegates:

LINN—Wm McCulloch, S D Haley, G F Simpson, A G Marshall, W P Anderson, James Davis, John Layton, G Crawford, J H Baber, James Finlayson, Jason Wheeler, A W Stammers, J H Smith, Martin Luper, G W Vernon.

LANE—T D Edwards, W A Potter, George Rinehart, M B Gay, proxy, W E Edwards, M Wilkins.

BENTON—Tolbert Carter, N Miller, E Hartless, C E Moore.

MARION—T L Davidson, F Condit, T W Davenport, J H Brown, Daniel Clark, John Minto, R C Geer, John Downing, Joseph Smith, F X Mathieu, M Fisk, H Udell, J W Grim, K L Hibbard.

COLUMBIA—G W Maxwell.

POLK—John Allen, Ira Townsend, Jesse Stump, W C Brown, Jas Tatom, J H Hawley, E McNary, W Churchill, Jas Smith, Isaac Smith, E W Clark, Thomas Blair, A D Babcock, William Ruble, delegate at large.

YAMHILL—H H Hewitt, D C Stewart, A B Henry, Wm Galloway, F Martin, Geo B Curry, J H Upton, D B Crawford, G C Nelson, R Laughlin, Willis Starr, A J Pitman, L Potter, by W Galloway, proxy, B Springer, S Blucher, by J H Upton, proxy, G B Curry, from Willamette League Club.

The report was adopted. The delegates from the different counties were instructed to fill their quota of membership with such persons as they might see fit to nominate.

On motion, the Chair appointed the following committee on Permanent Organization: C. P. Burklart, of Linn; T. W. Davenport, of Marion; Thos. Edwards, of Lane; Jesse Stump, of Polk; W. Galloway, of Yamhill; G. Maxwell, of Columbia, and E. Hartless, of Benton.

The committee nominated Mr. Wilkins, Chairman; J. H. Smith, Secretary; M. V. Brown, Assistant Secretary. Report adopted.

After much discussion, the following gentlemen were appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws: Hartless, Stump, Curry, Potter, Crawford and Davenport.

Reporters were invited to take seats within the bar. After reading the call for the convention, which was asked for, Mr. C. E. Moore, of Linn, submitted the following:

Resolved, That the object of this convention is to express the sentiment of the farmers of Oregon, by resolutions, upon their various interests.

Remarks more or less extended were made on this resolution by Messrs. Minto, Wilkins, Moore, Watt, Smith and Low, and then the resolution was adopted.

A committee of six, consisting of Moore, Upton, Smith, Gay, Ruble and Maxwell, were appointed on resolutions, and ordered to report at 7 P. M.

An invitation to the convention to visit the Penitentiary, from the Superintendent, was accepted.

The committee on Constitution and By-Laws submitted the following:

Your committee, to whom was referred the subject of a Constitution, beg leave to report that we have adjourned until to-morrow morning, and suggest that the convention discuss this afternoon the following: Shall the farmers of this State organize for the purpose of building wharves, warehouses or steamboats, and engage in the business of transportation; or shall they seek amelioration of their present condition by taking advantage of the present circumstances to obtain a reduction of freights, and also as to what methods we shall adopt to avoid the unnecessary expenses entailed upon productions in the too frequent handling by those between the producer and consumer. S. T. CRAWFORD, Chairman.

Remarks were made on this report by Messrs. Clark, Galloway, Hewitt, McClure, Curry, Davenport and others. The convention then adjourned until 7 P. M.

At the evening session, after remarks by Mr. Hartless in opposition to building warehouses at any of the lower wharves, the Committee on Reso-

lutions offered the following, which were adopted by sections:

WHEREAS, The practice of the farmers of Oregon in storing their grain in the warehouses of millers and grain dealers, has resulted in placing the power of setting the price to a great extent in the control of buyers; and

WHEREAS, The present system of the transportation of freights from the Columbia and Willamette Rivers is unnecessarily tedious and expensive; therefore,

Resolved, That we strongly advise that farmers keep absolute control of their own products until sold, in order to keep themselves free from conditional engagements with middle men.

Resolved, That it is manifestly the interest of the farmers of the Willamette and Columbia River valleys to combine and build warehouses at convenient points along the railroads and navigable streams for the purpose of storing their products, and sell said products directly to the shipper or consumer, so as to avoid the extortion of middle men.

The following resolution elicited much discussion:

Resolved, That in our opinion the construction of warehouses at Astoria will greatly facilitate the transportation of our products to foreign markets; and that it is the conviction of this body that a warehouse or warehouses at said point will meet such encouragement at the hands of this State as will insure their success as an investment.

It passed by the following vote:

Ayes—Anderson, Davis, Layton, Crawford, Baber, Finlayson, Wheeler, Smith, Vernon, Edwards, Gay, Moore, Davis, Minto, Jo. Smith, Grim, Allen, Townsend, Stump, Brown, W. C. Tatom, McNary, Clark, Blucher, Simpson.

Nays—McCulloch, Haley, Potter, Edwards, Carter, Miller, Hartless, Davenport, Geer, Matthews, Udell, Hibbard, Babcock, Hewitt, Galloway, Martin, Curry, D. B. Crawford, Laughlin, Pitman, Watts.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Second Day.

Convention was called to order at 8.15 A. M.

Speakers on motion were limited to ten minutes time.

Mr. Minto offered the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, There has been continued complaints made by the masters of vessels and the merchants of our State regarding the manner in which the parties who have contracted with the State to place a tug boat on the Bar of the Columbia River have fulfilled the said contract, and in consequence of the reported failure of said parties to faithfully perform their contract the commercial and transportation interests of the State have been damaged to a great extent, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention respectfully ask the Governor of this State to examine into this matter, and see that the law of the contract is faithfully fulfilled by the contracting parties.

The resolution was, on motion, referred to a committee of three, consisting of Messrs. Minto, Potter and Burklart.

The following resolution, after much discussion, was adopted:

Resolved, That while we are not prepared to recommend the building of sea-going vessels by farmers, yet the construction of such vessels within our products to foreign markets, deserves every encouragement from the people of the State.

These were also adopted:

Resolved, That while we are in favor of encouraging all legitimate means of more cheaply and expeditiously sending off exports and receiving imports, we would most emphatically recommend the encouragement of all branches of home manufactures, as a means of creating a home market by the multiplication of our consuming population.

Resolved, That as we recognize the merchants of Oregon as sufferers in common with the farmers, when freights are subjected to unnecessary cost and delay, we therefore invite their co-operation in securing relief from our present system.

The following, after considerable opposition, was adopted:

Resolved, That having interest in common with all skilled mechanics in the encouragement of home manufactures, we would recommend to the consideration of master mechanics the policy of using apprentice labor.

This resolution was passed by a majority of two.

Resolved, That wherever practicable it is the imperative duty of the farmers of the Willamette Valley to patronize and in every honorable way to encourage the Willamette Transportation Company.

This last as a substitute for the above, was passed as an independent resolution.

Resolved, That this Convention congratulates the people of Oregon upon the opening of the Upper Willamette River to free competition in the transportation business of the Willamette and Lower Columbia by the construction of the Locks at the Falls of the Willamette.

The following resolutions were also passed:

Resolved, That the gratitude of the farmers of Oregon is due to those newspapers that have published communications, notices, and other matters tending to the furtherance of the farmers' movement.

The thanks of the Convention were on motion tendered to the Willamette River Transportation Company for courtesies rendered.

A resolution was adopted tendering thanks to the Holladay line of steamers for courtesies.

The following was passed:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to the Secretary of State, Hon. S. F. Chadwick, for the use of the hall of the House of Representatives, and for other courtesies extended by him to this Convention.

Gov. Grover by invitation addressed the Convention on the subject of pilotage at the bar of the Columbia. He denied that the pilotage was under the control of the Governor.

Secretary Chadwick, on invitation, also addressed the Convention. Convention then adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

On motion Mr. S. A. Clark, of the Willamette Farmer, addressed the Convention. His remarks were listened to with satisfaction.

Mr. Davenport, from the Committee on Constitution, made the following report:

Your committee would beg leave to report that we are unable to agree upon any organization, and would recommend that the present organization of the Convention be continued after adjournment, to a definite time, and that there then be appointed the following committees, viz: One upon Constitution, which shall report at the next meeting of the Convention; one upon Commerce, Foreign Freights and Markets, Wharfrage, etc.; one upon Internal Transportation, Freights, etc.; and one upon Domestic Manufactures.

These committees are requested to gather accurate and useful information in regard to costs and conditions connected with the subjects committed to them for investigation, and that they report by the Secretary, through the columns of the Willamette Farmer, as soon as practicable.

G. F. CRAWFORD, Chairman of Committee.

It was moved by Upton to lay this on the table, and appoint a new committee. Mr. Minto opposed the motion.

A lengthy minority report was presented by Mr. Ruble.

After considerable discussion the majority report was adopted.

On motion the Convention elected the following committees:

Constitution—Messrs. Davenport, Ruble and Stump.

Commerce—Messrs. Watt, Powers, Hartless, Minto and Baber.

Internal Transportation—John H. Smith, Daniel Clark, Henry Hewitt, W. C. Brown and Phillip Low.

Domestic Manufactures—Messrs. Crawford, of Yamhill, Kelly, Townsend, Moore and Finlayson.

After some discussion it was determined to hold the next meeting of the convention on the second Tuesday in June next.

Mr. Curry offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolved, That this convention recommend that the farmers of each precinct in this State organize into clubs and report the names of their officers to the Secretary of this convention immediately after their organization, and that each precinct organization not represented in this convention be entitled to one delegate at the next meeting of this Convention.

Adopted.

Mr. Smith moved that a committee of three be appointed to prepare an address to the farmers of this State, to be published in the Willamette Farmer. Carried.

Messrs. John Smith, T. W. Davenport and Thomas Edwards were appointed as such committee.

Mr. Curry presented the following and moved its adoption:

Resolved, That the mechanics of Oregon are hereby invited to co-operate with the farmers in the redress of our mutual grievances.

It elicited but little discussion, and was adopted.

John H. Smith presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this convention be returned to the various officers for the able manner in which they have discharged their duties.

There being no further business before the convention, it was, on motion, declared adjourned until the second Tuesday in June, at 1 P. M., when it would again meet for the transaction of any business that may properly come before it.

For want of space we are compelled to omit the remarks made by members of the convention; but the business of the meeting—the actual work, resolutions presented, etc.—is fully given.

"Ye local" of the Oregonian says, "Happy is the man who can move his all in a collar-box." We infer the writer is happy, though he may yet be destitute of the box.

BAD NEWS.

GEN CANBY AND DR. THOMAS MURDERED—MEACHAM WOUNDED.

The "pow-wow" policy at last culminated in a most terrible tragedy. On last Friday the Peace Commission, composed of Gen. Canby, Mr. Meacham, Mr. Dyar and Dr. Thomas, with Frank Riddle and squaw as interpreters, and Capt. Jack and five other Indians met about one mile outside the lines, for consultation. Mr. Riddle is authority for the following statement of what transpired: Mr. Meacham made a short speech to the Indians. Gen. Canby followed. Then Dr. Thomas, when Jack, in reply, demanded Hot Creek and Cottonwood, the places now held by Fairchild and Dorris, for a reservation. Mr. Meacham told him it was impossible to give him what he asked. Seonchin told Meacham to say no more; that he (Meacham) had said enough upon that subject.

While Seonchin was talking, Capt. Jack got up and walked behind the others, turned back, and with no other warning than exclaiming, "all ready!" drew his pistol, snapped a cap at Gen. Canby, cocked it again and fired. Gen. Canby fell dead, shot under the right eye. Seonchin shot Meacham in the shoulder and in the head, but did not kill him. Charley and another Indian shot and killed Dr. Thomas. Hooker Jim chased Dyar for some distance, but Dyar turned on him with his pistol in hand when Jim ran back to his "lava bed." A later dispatch than this, however, is as follows: At Mason's camp, L. B. Sherwood and Boyle were allured out four or five hundred yards by a white flag, at the time the Peace Commission were talking with Capt. Jack. Here they met, as they supposed, two Indians, who wanted to talk with Col. Mason. On being refused, Sherwood and Boyle, as they started to return, were fired upon by four Indians, and Sherwood was wounded in the arm and seriously in the thigh. Capt. Anderson, who was on duty at the signal station at Hospital rock, saw this attack, and telegraphed to Gen. Gillem to notify the Peace Commission at once. Col. Bid-

dle, who was at the signal station at Gen. Gillem's headquarters, at once placed his field glass upon General Canby, as the party sat together about a mile distant. Soon he saw the whole party scattered. He saw Gen. Canby run about fifty yards, throw up his arms and fall backwards dead. He saw two of the Indians, who were following him—one he believed was Capt. Jack, jump upon him and stab him in the neck. The General was found completely stripped. Dr. Thomas was also naked, his purse, containing sixty odd dollars, was found under his body, the Indians having dropped it. Mr. Meacham was found about fifty yards from the spot where the slaughter commenced, entirely stripped, and bewildered in mind. He was shot in three places, one ball entering at the inner corner of his right eye, another in the side of his head. The third passed through his right fore-arm. He also received a cut in his left arm, and a scalp wound five inches in length. Meacham thinks he shot Seonchin in the abdomen. Immediately upon the firing of the shots, the soldiers started on the "double quick." The Indians retired to their retreat. The soldiers followed them half a mile beyond the murder ground, and there remained until dark, when they were withdrawn, having no supplies. The remains of Gen. Canby and Dr. Thomas arrived at Yreka on the afternoon of the 13th.

Senator Mitchell was appointed a member to each of four important Senatorial committees. No such high compliment has been bestowed upon any other new member of the Senate. Indeed it is a rare thing for Senators of long standing to occupy positions upon more than three committees. To be placed upon the committee of Privileges and Elections, is considered of itself a high compliment. Mitchell is a member of that committee. The other committees of which he is a member are Commerce, Claims and Transportation Routes to the Seaboard. These recognitions of Senator Mitchell's abilities are gratifying to his friends, because they are merited.

A SUCCESS.

We give in this issue a condensed report of the proceedings of the Farmers' Convention which met at Salem last week. It was largely attended, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed throughout. It was intended to give a head to the farmers' movement in this State. Much diversity of opinion existed among farmers as to their needs, and this Convention was intended to bring these opinions where they could be compared, and, if possible, give them a practical direction. This work was accomplished in the resolutions which were passed and the State organization which was formed. The Convention was a success.

A few Words.

The news of the murder of General Canby and Rev. Mr. Thomas by the treacherous Modocs, and the wounding of Mr. Meacham, has excited among our people mingled feelings of pain and indignation. The nation is rarely called upon to mourn the loss of so upright, able and distinguished a military chieftain, as was Brigadier General Canby. For upwards of forty years he gave his country a pure and valuable service, beginning as early as the Florida war, and compassing a varied and wide-extended service, embracing the Mexican war and war of the rebellion. His integrity, genius and gallantry gained for him promotion, step by step, until he reached the position he occupied at his death. That so noble and valuable a life should be sacrificed to a policy of office suicidal, wrong and foolish, is peculiarly a trial to his friends here, and a source of regret to all who know anything of the modern Indian character.

Dr. Thomas was a man of distinguished abilities, loved and appreciated the most in that denomination of which he was a pure and shining light. Though he fell by the treacherous hands of the Modocs, it was in the discharge of duty, and the influence of his example and life-work shall continue to shine.

We are sorry for Mr. Meacham. He seems to have been sadly deceived relative to the Modoc character, and he is now brought quite near the hereafter by his mistake. In it he was consistent. We hope an overruling Providence may spare his life to his afflicted family and friends.

The news of the assassination of Gen. Canby, produced a profound sensation of sorrow and indignation in Washington. The President and Gen. Sherman are now in favor of the severest measures of punishment. General Sherman telegraphed to Gen. Schofield to move at once upon the Indians. We are glad the eyes of the Government are at last opened to the criminal and treacherous character of the Modocs. Fain would we have had the lesson taught otherwise than by the sacrifice of noble, precious lives; but their blood will not have been shed in vain, if the Government and Eastern people generally, obtain a clear vision of the modern Indian, as he is. He is a bloodthirsty, treacherous, savage beast, whom fear alone will tame. We give those who favored the Peace Policy credit for good intentions, but they erred in their estimate of the Modoc character.

Mrs. Meacham received a telegram, at Roseburg, from Yreka on the 13th, stating that a cooler from the front had arrived. At that time her husband was doing well and would survive. His wounds were a gunshot wound of the right fore-arm, one of the left index finger, also one of the right ear, a lacerated wound of the forehead and nose, and a wound of the scalp six inches in length, caused by an attempt to scalp him.

A mass-meeting, largely attended, was held in Portland last Monday afternoon, for the purpose of expressing views relative to the Modoc murders. Resolutions were passed and speeches made demanding stringent measures from the Government in its treatment of the Modocs, also expressing words of condolence for the illustrious dead. Suitable preparations were also made for the obsequies.

There was a rumor in Paris, on the 15th inst., that the Pope was dead, but no confirmation.