

NEBRASKA PALLADIUM.

BELLEVIEW, NEBRASKA.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1855.

AGENTS.

- V. B. Palmer, Tribune building, S. M. Post... E. W. Carr, Crane & Co., Philadelphia... W. S. Symmer, General Newspaper Agent...

Convention at Bellevue.

A grand Convention of the people of Nebraska was held at Bellevue, in accordance to previous notice—Tuesday, Jan. 9th, 1855.

The meeting was called to order by C. W. Pierce of Nebraska City. J. C. Mitchell of Florence was chosen chairman, and D. E. Reed of Bellevue, and H. Bradford of Nebraska City were appointed secretaries.

Stephen Decatur, Bellevue, Col. E. R. Doyle, Fontinelle, C. H. Cowles, Nebraska City, Dr. B. Y. Shilly, Blackbird Hills, L. Nuckolls, Nebraska City, and J. C. Mitchell, Florence, were selected a Committee to represent the cause of the people to the incoming Governor.

The following preamble and resolutions after an animated discussion, were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, T. B. Cuming, the present so-called Acting Governor of this Territory, has secretly endeavored to thwart the wishes of the people, and openly denied them the rights which belong to all American freemen, we deem it not only our privilege, but our solemn and imperative duty, as citizens, to remonstrate against him and his further continuance in any official position in this Territory.

And to show the justness of our grounds of complaint, we do therefore, resolve, 1st, That he is now and ever has been since he assumed his office—contrary to the provisions of our organic law—a non-resident of Nebraska.

2d, That his appointment of representation which he has attempted to force upon the people, by the aid of his own corrupt and evil-minded friends, is unjust and not in accordance with the spirit and intention of the bill which gave us our political existence.

3d, That as T. B. Cuming has never taken the oath qualifying him for the office of Governor, none of his acts are legal, but null and void.

4th, That we do demand of the Governor confirmed, a retaking of the census and new districting of the Territory, in order that justice and equity may prevail, and every portion of the said Territory equally represented in our Legislative Assembly.

5th, That we respectfully, but earnestly petition to the President of the United States, the immediate removal of T. B. Cuming from the Secretaryship of this Territory, and the appointment of an honest, honorable man to fill the place which he now disgraces.

6th, That our efforts against T. B. Cuming, insignificant and small as he is, shall never cease until he is removed from the Secretaryship of Nebraska, as we believe him to be too dishonest to be concerned in any part of our government.

7th, That this Convention recommend to the President of the United States the appointment of P. J. McMahon, as Secretary of the Territory of Nebraska.

In the absence of the committee appointed to report resolutions for the consideration of the Convention, Commodore Decatur rose, and gave an eloquent rehearsal of the acts of the Governor—and showed most conclusively that they bore the hateful brand of tyranny, and were such as to excite alarm in the mind of every man who values his own freedom, and wishes to have it transmitted to those who are to come after. Said that we stood to represent those that were to come—and that if we suffered fraud, injustice and tyranny to prevail; posterity would rightly brand us with the ignominious stamp which such conduct would be calculated to inspire.

But space will not permit of our doing justice to the speaker, and we close.

An animated discussion arose upon the adoption of the 3rd resolution—in which Com. Decatur, A. C. Ford, Esq., J. S. Morton, contended for the adoption of the

resolution on the ground that Mr. Cuming had never taken the necessary oath qualifying him to act as Governor. Reference was made to the death of Gen. Harrison and Gen. Taylor. The Vice Presidents acting under them were required to take the Presidential oath before entering upon the duties of that high office, notwithstanding they had taken an oath as Vice President.

Another instance was referred to, occurring in the case of the death of DeWitt Clinton, of New York, when Lieutenant Gov. Tompkins was required to take the oath of the Governor's office before he could enter upon his duties. It was contended that the same rule was applicable in this case.

This view of the subject was opposed by C. W. Pierce of Nebraska City, G. W. Hallister and B. Whiteaker, who contended that the cases were not analogous, and that the oath taken as Secretary qualified him for the contingency that has arisen.

MICHEL'S SPEECH. J. C. Mitchell of Florence, made a very interesting speech, in which certain facts were brought to light, the existence of which, we had never been so positively assured of before.

We are under the necessity of being exceedingly brief in our report of this speech. It was said that when the census was taken in his district, there was not population enough to entitle them to a district, and the Governor supposing everything was in his favor in that place, undertook to make up the deficiency.

A certain certificate was made out, and circulated among the sacon travelers and street loafers of Council Bluffs, which was signed in sufficient numbers to form a justifiable basis upon which to build the representative fabric which had been established in that district.

We read in the Good Book, that "What is wanting, can't be numbered." The difficulty under which the author of that Book labored has been overcome by his Excellency—he has found out how to suit the numbers to the wants.

Such was the process by which the want of population was supplied in that district—and also in Burt and Dodge counties. The officer who took the census in Dodge county, enrolled numbers in the gro-shops of Council Bluffs city. The Omaha district was supplied in the same way.

On the other hand, census officers on the south side of the Platte, were required to cut short their returns, so that notwithstanding they had the greatest amount of population—the majority of the representatives should be from the North side.

In conclusion, Mr. M. said that the Governor had made known his intention to withhold his certificate of election to the Council, and that it had been intimated, that this intension might be withdrawn if he would condescend to humble himself before His Excellency, and agree to sustain his administration. It was also intimated that the certificate was to be withheld on the ground that he had made use of some threats against the Governor, and had treated him with incivility. In relation to the threats, Mr. M. said that he had at all times treated the Governor with ordinary civility, and that beyond this, he could not go. Said that if His Excellency should presume to approach him with bribes, he would whip him as he would whip a dog. Said the election was a fraud from beginning to end, and that if a code of laws were enacted by the present Legislature, they would be annulled, no better than a spider's web.

Speeches were made by our editorial brother of the Nebraska City News, B. Winchester, Esq., and others which we cannot find space to report. Every thing passed off with the utmost harmony.

THE NEW GOVERNOR.—We rejoice in the appointment of Mark W. Lard to the office of Chief Magistrate of Nebraska. We trust he is an honest man and will take sides with the people, when their wishes are made known, and not seek to carry out the plan to circumvent and defeat them, that has been undertaken by the "Acting Governor."

GOS-NOO-GAH. The word gos-noo-gah is Omaha, and means, sliding.

This is a favorite amusement with the Omaha youth by whom we are surrounded. The sled used for this purpose is composed of a solid cake of ice, cut about ten inches wide and fifteen inches long, rounded off in a proper shape to run over small obstacles. A string is attached to the forward end of the sled by which it is drawn up the hill from which the descent is to be made. When ready the boy takes his seat upon his sled and having secured a hold upon the string, starts off with a rapidity proportioned to the inclination of the plan down which he descends. It sometimes happens that the brittle material of which the sled is composed is shattered to fragments whilst making its descent, by which accident the unfortunate rider is frequently compelled to take several somersets in rapid succession before he can overcome the force by which he was descending.

The country is well watered, and we have never known a trial to find it fail of success. There are numerous springs and rivulets in every part of the country, from which a constant supply can be procured. Wells can be dug in any part of the country, and if properly secured will at all times afford an abundance of water. In nearly all cases the quality of the water is of the best description—pure, limped, and of course, pleasant and healthy.

After the descent of rain, a sticky mud resembling black peat is produced, which is very quickly dried up when the rain ceases—a few hours only being necessary to restore the ground to a state suitable for the process of cultivation.

Our atmosphere is remarkably clear at all seasons of the year, and fogs are very seldom found.

ENQUIRIES AND ANSWERS.

Extracts from a private letter addressed to an intimate friend of ours, by whom it has been handed us for publication and reply.

DENTON, Orange Co., N. Y., Dec. 11, 1854.

DEAR FRIEND—I have been thinking that I should like to be with you to assist you in the work I have been advising you to do, and have thought for years past of selling out and going to the far West for that very purpose, and that it would be far better for my family to do so, than to remain where I am. Should I go out West, and live and health be continued for a few years, I think I could, help much of my family to a comfortable home, so far as the necessities of the present life are concerned, and that you are aware as very desirable.

I wish you to embrace the earliest opportunity in going me a general description of the appearance of the country, the character and extent of the soil, the climate, what the timber, what it is watered, and what the quality of the water, whether it is muddy and sticky after rains, and such other descriptions as you may think interesting to us.

The writer proceeds to enumerate various individuals and families in that country, who have either sold out their places, or are intending to do so for the purpose of seeking new homes in the west, and that among them are many choice spirits who will be a blessing to the community in which they settle.

The purport of our friend's letter appears to be that it is preferable to take what he has accumulated at the east and invest it in the beautiful and fertile land of this country, for the benefit of his children and their posterity. He believes it to be the part of wisdom to relinquish present luxuries and even conveniences for the sake of laying a broad foundation to meet the necessities of himself and his friends at a future day.

He believes it better to convert his farm into another from thirty to fifty times as large. In other words, to get from thirty to fifty acres of our rich virgin soil, for each acre he now cultivates—better for each present ease and luxury for the sake of the increase, which a few years of reasonable toil and sacrifice would furnish.

The general surface of the country is rolling, but not rugged so as to be unfit for cultivation. With the exception of the river bottoms, which are nearly level, all of our lands are of this character. Our soil is from four to ten feet in depth and of a good quality as the earth affords. It is composed of an exceeding fine dark vegetable mould, free from stones and gravel, and is easily broken and pulverized.

The products of this country consist of corn, wheat, buckwheat, rye, oats, barley, beans, peas, potatoes, beets, carrots, turnips, onions and every variety of vegetables found in this latitude, all of which are produced in the greatest abundance and perfection.

Corn yields from 60 to 80 bushels to the acre, and if well cultivated will produce still more. Perhaps there is no country where every description of vines yield better fruit and at the same time so large an amount. We have seen squashes raised upon the soil, which put our strength to a severe trial to take up in our arms. A neighbor of ours raised a single watermelon vine the past season, which produced 8 melons, the largest of which weighed 40 pounds, and the smallest upwards of 20 pounds. Vegetables of the root class are equally prolific. It is not unusual to find the common English turnip exceeding 8 pounds in weight, and beets from 18 to 20 pounds.

The climate is a very dry one, more so than any we have ever seen. We have very little rain except what falls in the month of May, and it is a rare thing that we have snow enough during the winter to make sleighing, and a rarer thing still that we have enough to be a serious impediment to the progress of a wagon.

There are certain seasons when there is considerable wind and this forms one of the most disagreeable features of our salubrious and healthy climate. Our timber consists of cottonwood, elm, ash, oak, black-walnut, hickory, sycamore, and basswood, the different species of which, constitute our principal stock of timber. Timber is not abundant, but there is sufficient to answer the demands of a much larger population than we shall be likely to have for many years to come.

The cultivation of timber would afford an opportunity to use capital so as to yield a very large interest upon the sum invested.

The country is well watered, and we have never known a trial to find it fail of success. There are numerous springs and rivulets in every part of the country, from which a constant supply can be procured. Wells can be dug in any part of the country, and if properly secured will at all times afford an abundance of water. In nearly all cases the quality of the water is of the best description—pure, limped, and of course, pleasant and healthy.

After the descent of rain, a sticky mud resembling black peat is produced, which is very quickly dried up when the rain ceases—a few hours only being necessary to restore the ground to a state suitable for the process of cultivation.

Our atmosphere is remarkably clear at all seasons of the year, and fogs are very seldom found.

Disseas, which in other places assume a very malignant aspect, are gentle in their operation, and easily managed by those who are acquainted with their nature, and the influence of the climate by which they are surrounded.

Fever and ague is by far the most troublesome complaint with which we are afflicted—but it is seldom that it is of long duration, or fatal in its influence. Health predominates ever disease to as great an extent as we think it does in any new country.

TREATY STIPULATIONS.

Below, we publish such articles of the treaty stipulations with the Omahas, as seem to be required for the information of those who are not in possession of the treaty. By giving attention to the terms stipulated, many false impressions respecting the duty of the Agent will be removed.

We are satisfied the Agent is desirous of fulfilling his duties to the Indians, and the Government, and that he will do it as he is directed by the authority by which the treaty has been established.

It has been thought by many that the Indians were to be paid in money, and that at certain periods—but the treaty gives no warrant for such conclusions. They are to be paid in money, or goods, according to the discretion of the President. The same principles extend to the Ojibwa treaty.

Article 2. The Omahas agree, that as soon after the United States shall make the necessary provisions for fulfilling the stipulations of this instrument, as they can conveniently arrange their affairs, and not to exceed one year from its ratification, they will vacate the ceded country, and remove to the lands reserved herein by them, or to the other lands provided for in lieu thereof, in the preceding article, as the case may be.

Article 3. The Omahas relinquish to the United States all claims, for money or other thing, under former treaties, and likewise all claims which they may have heretofore, at any time, set up, to any land on the east side of the Missouri river; provided the Omahas shall still be entitled to and receive from the Government, the unpaid balance of the twenty-five thousand dollars appropriated for their use, by the act of thirtieth of August, 1851.

Article 4. In consideration of and payment for the country herein ceded, and the relinquishments herein made, the United States agree to pay to the Omahas Indians, the following sums of money following to wit: 1st. Forty thousand dollars, per annum, for the term of three years, commencing on the first day of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-five.

2d. Thirty thousand dollars, per annum, for the term of ten years, next succeeding the three years.

3d. Twenty thousand dollars, per annum, for the term of fifteen years, next succeeding the ten years.

4th. Ten thousand dollars, per annum, for the term of twelve years, next succeeding the fifteen years.

All which several sums of money shall be paid to the Omahas, or expended for their use and benefit, under the direction of the President of the United States, who may from time to time determine at his discretion, what proportion of the annual payments, in this article provided for, if any, shall be paid to them in money, and what proportion shall be applied to and expended, for their moral improvement and education; for such beneficial objects as in his judgment will be calculated to advance them in civilization; for buildings, opening farms, fencing, breaking land, providing stock, agricultural implements, seeds, &c.; for clothing, provisions, and merchandize; for iron, steel, arms and ammunition; for mechanics, and outstand for medical purposes.

Article 5. In order to enable the said Indians to settle up their affairs, and to remove and to subside themselves for one year of their new home, and which they agree to do without further expense to the United States, and also to pay the expenses of the delegation who may be appointed to make the expatriation provided for in article first, and to fence and to break up two hundred acres of land at their new home, they shall receive from the U. S., the further sum of forty-one thousand dollars, to be paid out and expended under the direction of the President, and in such manner as he shall approve.

Article 6. The President may, from time to time, at his discretion, cause the whole or such portion of the land hereby reserved, as he may think proper, or of such other land as may be selected in lieu thereof, as provided for in article first, to be surveyed into lots, and to assign to such Indian or Indians of said tribe as are willing to avail of the privilege, and who will locate on the same as a permanent home, if a single person over twenty-one years of age, one-eighth of a section; to each family of three and not exceeding five, one half section; to each family of six and not exceeding ten, one section; and to each family over ten in number, one quarter section for every additional five members. And he may prescribe such rules and regulations as will insure to the family, in case of the death of the head thereof, the possession and enjoyment of such permanent home and the improvements thereon. And the President may, at any time, in his discretion, after such person or family has made a location on the land assigned for a permanent home, issue a patent to such person or family for such assigned land, conditioned that the tract shall not be aliened or leased for a longer term than two years; and shall be exempt from levy, sale, or foreclosure, which conditions shall continue in force,

and a State constitution embracing such lands within its boundaries, shall have been formed and the Legislature of the State shall remove the restrictions. And if any such person or family shall at any time neglect or refuse to occupy and till a portion of the lands assigned and on which they have located, or shall move from place to place, the President may, if the patent shall have been issued, cancel the assignment, and may also withhold from such person or family, their proportion of the annuities or other moneys due them, until they shall have returned to such permanent home, and resumed the pursuits of industry; and in default of their return the tract may be declared abandoned, and thereafter assigned to some other person or family of such tribe, or disposed of as is provided for the disposition of the excess of said land. And the residue of the land hereby reserved, or of that which may be selected in lieu thereof, after all of the Indian persons or families shall have located on their permanent homes, may be sold for their benefit, under such laws, rules or regulations, as may hereafter be prescribed by the Congress or President of the United States. No State legislature shall remove the restrictions herein provided for, without the assent of Congress.

Article 7. Should the Omahas determine to make their permanent home north of the due west line named in the first article, the United States agree to protect them from the Sioux and all other hostile tribes, as long as the President may deem such protection necessary; and if other lands be assigned them, the same protection is guaranteed.

Article 8. The United States agree to erect for the Omahas, at their new home a grist and saw mill, and keep the same in repair, and provide a miller for ten years; also to erect a good blacksmith shop, supply the same with tools, and keep it in repair for ten years; and provide a good blacksmith for a like period; and to employ an experienced farmer for the term of ten years, to instruct the Indians in agriculture.

Article 9. The annuities of the Indians shall not be taken to pay the debts of individuals.

Article 10. The Omahas acknowledge their dependence on the government of the United States, and promise to be friendly with all the citizens thereof, and pledge themselves to commit no depredations on the property of such citizens. And should any one or more of them violate this pledge, and the fact be satisfactorily proven before the agent, the property taken shall be returned, or in default thereof, or if injured or destroyed, compensation may be made by the government out of their annuities. Nor will they make war on any other tribe, except in self defence, but will submit all matters of difference between them and other Indians to the government of the United States, or its agent, for decision, and abide thereby. And if any of the said Omahas commit any depredations on any other Indians, the same rule shall prevail as that prescribed in this article in cases of depredations against citizens.

Crowded Out.—Valuable communications have been crowded out to make room for the proceedings of the meeting.

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