

THE SIDE LIGHTS OF 1787.

The Proceedings Which Led to the Adoption of the Constitution.

SOME IMPORTANT HISTORY.

Prayer as a Panacea for Conflicting Views of Statesmen—A Paper of Peculiar Interest in View of the Centennial Celebration.

From the Philadelphia Times: The personnel of the convention which framed the constitution of the United States consisted of sixty-five members...

Although the convention was called to meet at Philadelphia, May 14, 1787, it was May 25 before a quorum of the states appeared...

The tardiness of the members of the convention in getting together was not redeemed by any very emphatic expressions that they expected that their work would amount to anything after it was all done...

But two names were thought of for president of the convention, George Washington of Virginia, and Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania...

Another threatening aspect of affairs turned on the creation of an executive to consist of a single person, mode of election and term of office, which, however, was ultimately adjusted in a spirit of compromise...

The dawn of triumph now appeared over the deliberations of the convention of 1787. On September 8 Dr. William S. Johnson, of Connecticut; Alexander Hamilton, of New York; Gouverneur Morris, of Pennsylvania; James Madison, of Virginia, and Rufus King, of Massachusetts, all elected to the committee...

After nearly three weeks' discussion the delegations, or part of the members, of Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Delaware, led by New Jersey, submitted what they designated a purely federal system...

be at the mercy of every change of party denomination in the States. Mr. Lansing, of New York, who belonged to that class of early politicians known in these days as a Bourbon, denied the power...

The entanglements of discussion and divergence of views had become so discouraging that Dr. Franklin, after reviewing the melancholy prospects...

The convention then turned from prayer to proportional representation with fruitless results for several more weeks. There was now serious talk on the part of the supporters of the New Jersey plan of Breaking up the convention by adjournment sine die...

The friends of a federal system by dilatory methods again attempted to frustrate the progress of business. The question of naturalization elicited stubborn debate. South Carolina was opposed to admitting foreigners into the public councils...

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On the same day Charles Pinckney, of South Carolina, submitted a draft of a federal government, which was an elaboration of the plan proposed by Dr. Randolph. On the next day, the fifth of the meeting, the convention went into committee of the whole...

Mr. Randolph was opposed to the indefinite and dangerous power given to congress, was pained to differ at the close of the great and awful subject of their labors...

The next day Monday, September 17, 1787. The engrossed constitution was read. Dr. Franklin arose with a written speech, which his colleague, Mr. Wilson, read. He confessed to objections to certain features, but was not sure that he should never approve them...

George Washington, president of the convention, at this solemn moment arose. It was the only time he entered at all into the discussion. It was to advocate a proposition just made by Nathaniel Gorham, of Massachusetts, to substitute 30,000, instead of 40,000, as the quota of original representation...

was for admitting amendments, "it would give him much satisfaction to see it adopted." Without a dissenting voice this knotty problem, which had consumed weeks of discussion and fever heat of feeling...

On the motion of Dr. Franklin to sign ten states represented voted aye and South Carolina voted no on account of the equivocal form of signing. New York did not vote, Hamilton being the only deputy present...

The constitution was signed by all the forty-three members present, except Randolph and Mason of Virginia, Gerry of Massachusetts, and Ellsworth of Connecticut...

BLUE GRASS FOR KANSAS FARM

The Only Salvation For Those of Moderate Means. Meadow Brook Farm (Kan.) letter to the Chicago Tribune. While Kansas is pre-eminently a corn-producing state, while oats and the native grasses on the bottoms and in the wet seasons on the high lands are a certain crop, it is nevertheless apparent that Kansas can not depend upon either of all these crops for future success in agriculture...

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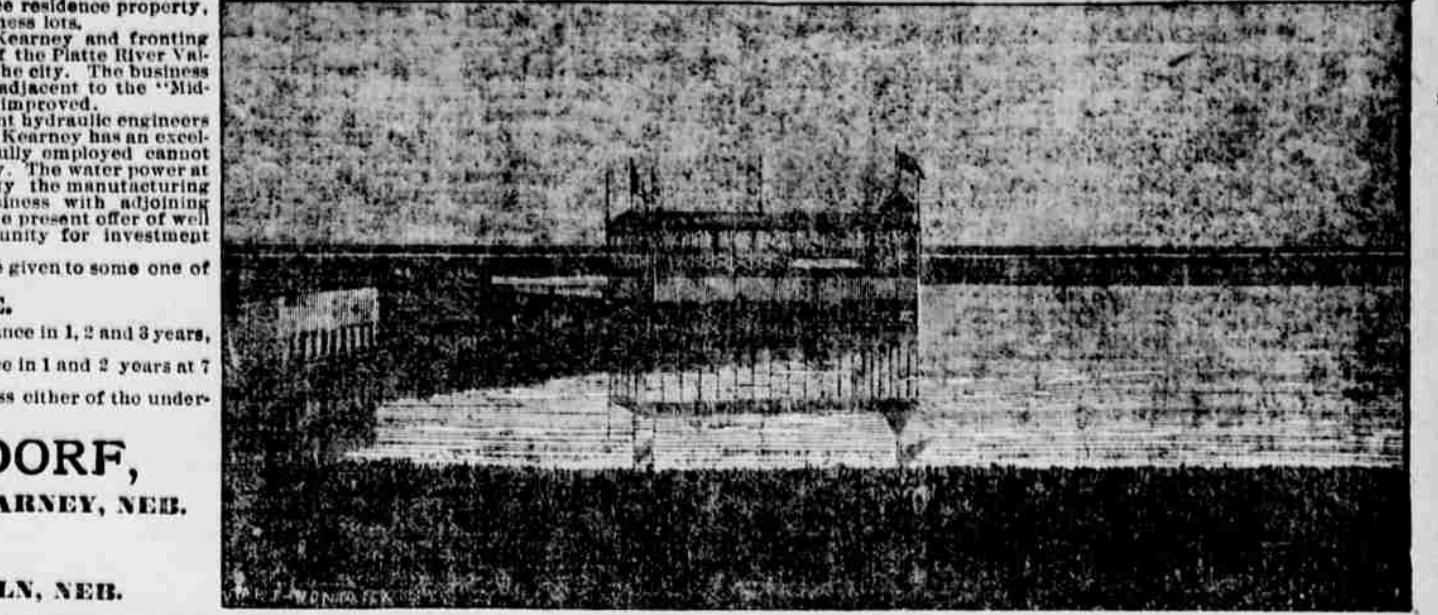
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