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"Truth is omnipotent, and Public Justice certain."

WHIG
NOMINATION OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION
FOR PRESIDENT,
WILLIAM H. HARRISON,
OF OHIO.
FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
JOHN TYLER,
OF VIRGINIA.

NEW-ORLEANS:
MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 30, 1839.

☞ At the suggestion of our friends we have had struck off an extra number of copies of the first sketch of Gen'l Harrison's life, which appeared in the Bee of Wednesday last. Copies may be obtained at the office of charge) by applying at the office.

The mail arrived at a late hour last night. We have extracted all that the crowded state of our columns would permit.

CONGRESS.

R. M. T. Hunter, (*whig*,) has been elected Speaker of the house of representatives.—*this is indeed a triumph!*

☞ The city of New Orleans was well nigh being given to the theatre of a bloody drama on Saturday last. In the forenoon of that day, Col. Christy, accompanied by his son, entered the office of the *Anti Humbug*, for the purpose of chastising the editor for offence attached to the private character of Col. Christy, which appeared in the *Anti Humbug* of that morning. The editor was not in; but the publisher being present, the son of Col. Christy assaulted him with a walking cane, and inflicted several severe blows upon his head and shoulders.

In the rencontre a pistol was fired, the ball of which grazed Col. Christy's forehead. The son was knocked down by a mallet, and the publisher effected a retreat from the apartment by jumping as we learn from a by-stander of yesterday, from the window of the second story of the building in which the *Anti Humbug* is printed. We have been informed, that during the scuffle between Col. Christy's son and the publisher the latter did not interfere further than to prevent others from engaging in the fight.

Col. Christy is the president of the Native American association, and the *Anti-Humbug* is opposed to the objects of that association. In combatting the principles of a association that paper has frequently alluded to Col. Christy in discourteous language, and on the morning of the difficulty charged him with a dirty transaction, in his relations as a private gentleman. It was for this attack that the son assaulted the publisher.

During the day the controversy assumed a party character, and people were seen in squads in every direction in serious conversation as if something of moment was to occur. As evening approached the excitement became more intense, and at night all a large crowd assembled in front of the *Anti-Humbug* and *Native American* offices, which are in the immediate vicinity of each other. At this period it would have been an easy matter to produce the most serious collision. A blow struck, would have caused a general battle, and our streets would have drenched in blood. All the elements of a most sanguinary conflict were present, and prepared for the affray; but by one of those marvels which in the wisdom of Providence keeps men from slaying each other, the night passed without serious tumult. The one blow necessary, was not struken, and at a late hour the crowd dispersed.

We hope the excitement will here cease. A fearful night has been passed in safety; if people will reflect for a moment on the horrors which would have ensued upon the shedding of blood, on last Saturday evening, we are confident that the peace of society will not again be put in jeopardy.

THE VALLEY FORGE.

This vessel, a beautiful specimen of American workmanship, arrived at our wharf yesterday morning. Her hull and lower works are built of iron. Her upper cabin, which is spacious, airy and tastefully arranged is of wood. She carries about 300 tons down stream and draws 28 inches. By it, about 18 inches less than a vessel of similar dimensions built of wood.

Her cabin is as exquisitely constructed as that of any one we have seen. The whole of its partitioned off into state rooms of convenient size, with latticed doors, and glass lights above. Upon the glass above the doors of each state room is stamped the name of one of the states or territories. The ladies' cabin is handsomely decorated, and the folding doors dividing it from the main cabin are filled with cut glass, upon each pane there being a flower exquisitely wrought.

She has a double engine, and is a fair runner. She struck a snag coming down, against which several boats have been wrecked, but suffered no material injury. We would advise all to visit her.

THE RACES.

We were not present at yesterday's race on the Bayou course, but learn that Grey Medoc bore the palm to all competitors in two straight heats. The first heat stood thus:

Grey Medoc,	1
Morla Black,	2
Allen Brown,	3
Alsof,	4
Billy Townes,	5
Zoe,	6

The second heat was gallantly contested by Grey Medoc and Morla Black, and was only won by half a length after a hard struggle, by the former. The horses came in as follows:

Grey Medoc,	1
Maria Black,	2
Alsof,	3
Billy Townes,	4
Allen Brown,	— withdrawn.
Zoe,	— broke down.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, December 16, 1839.

The elect members of the house of representatives were called to order at noon, by their chairman the hon. table J. Adams.

The journal of Saturday having been read,

Mr. Bouldin rose to call to the unfinished business, viz. being the election of speaker.

Mr. Dromgoole rose and said that, before the ball ballot commenced, he would ask leave to make an announcement.

Leave having been granted,

Mr. Dromgoole continued. I have been requested by the democratic caucus, (Mr. J. W. Jones) of which I have been the chairman, to request that the house may be constituted a committee of the whole.

The question then arose on the motion—Messrs. Kein, Kennedy and Crockett, again bringing forward their following in the result of the vote, as vote stood:

RECAPITULATION.

Whole number of votes given,	32, necessary to a choice, 17, of which there were for
Robert M. T. Hunter,	119
John W. Jones,	5
George R. Keim,	21
Zadock Cass,	10
Francis W. Pickens,	9
George C. Mendenhall,	1
Dawes,	1
Francis Thomas,	3
Tilghman A. Howard,	1
John Boyd,	1
Isaac D. Lewis,	1
David A. Starkweather,	1
Nathan Clifford,	1
Total,	232

The chairman then announced to the house that ROBERT M. T. HUNTER, having a majority of the whole number of votes was duly elected speaker of the house of representatives.

The chairman then requested Mr. Banks and Mr. Lowe to conduct the speaker to the chair, and Mr. Lowe Williams to administer the oath of office to him.

Mr. Banks and Mr. Lawrence accordingly conducted the speaker to the chair.

And, when he had taken it, and the oath was administered to him,

The house, on motion of Mr. Wise, adjourned till to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

[FROM THE WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT.]

Washington, Dec. 17th, 1839

The galleries were filled at an early hour this morning with crowds of ladies and gentlemen, attracted by curiosity to the desire to see the opening of the House of Representatives by the new speaker.

At twelve o'clock Mr. Robert M. T. Hunter the speaker took the chair and called the house to order. He then rose and addressed the members in a very modest impressive manner, during his address of half an hour which had been committed upon the table, it was so unexpected that even yet he could scarcely bring himself to express his sense of his unmerited kindness. He hoped he should be able to offer better evidences of his gratitude in the course of his efforts to discharge the duties of his station promptly and impartially. Called to this station by a small majority, but so much as any high honor can confer upon the highest degree of his pride, he should act as the speaker, not of a party, but of the House, and while he would feel obliged to any one to point out to him what is not constitutional, he would feel indebted to no individual to uphold the interest of any section of the country. He then proceeded to call the members of the fourth of the Governor's message, particularly the oblig in regard to the general fund, and the necessity of some restriction on the appropriations of other departments, and controlling the public expenditures. He was not sure that any thing could be promised all that was in his power he would do with propriety and discretion. Impressed with a power sense of his own inability, and of the difficulties of his view and untried position, he relied on the assistance of the members to enable him to discharge the duties of the chair and preserve the decorum of the house in discussion. It would become the duty of the chair to compose those appeals, which will break out in the course of excited discussions; and he had confidence that he should be cordially sustained by all parties in upholding the dignity and laws and usages of the house. He closed with again returning his thanks for the honor of his present station and expressing his fervent wishes that all their deliberations would result to the honor of the House, and be satisfactory to the country.

These remarks were delivered in a graceful, spirited and effective manner, and the impression produced by all present was that the new speaker entered on the duties of his high and important duties most auspiciously.

The reading of the journal followed; and immediately thereafter, Mr. Dromgoole of Va. offered a resolution to the effect that the rules and orders of the last house of representatives should be adopted as the rules and orders of this house. The drift of this was seven at once. It was to establish the rule of voting viva voce, with a view of operating on the election of printer and clerk. Mr. Lewis Williams, of North Carolina, instantly moved to lay the resolution on the table until the members should be sworn.

Mr. Wm. Cost Johnson quoted the terms of the act requiring the oath or affirmation to be administered to the members at the beginning of every congress, before proceeding to any other business.

After some conversation on this point between Mr. Dromgoole and Mr. Johnson, the question arose taken on the motion to lay on the table. Mr. Vanderpoel, with a view of bringing all the retainers of the executive to the mark, demanded the ayes and noes.—He also tried to procure an order for the call of the house; but this was promptly refused. The question was decided. Ayes, 116—Nays, 110—as the. This being the first occasion of the speaker showing his hand, much curiosity was excited, and the members and spectators bent eagerly forward to catch his words. He decided in the affirmative; and the resolution was therefore laid on the table.

The Speaker then proceeded to administer the oaths to the member,—the clerk calling them by states. When he came to the state of New Jersey he called only the name of Mr. Randolph. The gentleman chose not to appear. After the other states had been gone through, Mr. Randolph appeared, and he also did his five whig colleagues. The Speaker administered the oath to Mr. Randolph only; and then announced the fact that Messrs. Ayerigg, Halstead, Maxwell, Stratton and Yorke had appeared with the commissions of the governor of New Jersey, and demanded to be sworn. The Speaker proceeded to say, that were this a proceeding de novo, the Chair would not have hesitated, under his notions of his duty, to administer the oath to those gentlemen; but as proceedings had already been had on the subject in the house, and a resolution acted upon, he felt in his duty to submit the question, whether these members thus appearing should be sworn?

Mr. Wise wished to know whether any member present objected to these gentlemen being sworn?

Mr. Dromgoole said, the speaker had submitted a question to the house, and he presumed it was to be decided.

Mr. Wise.—I ask, is there any one to object? if I do, I presume the Speaker need not put any question. Mr. Wise added, that he raised the question only because the resolution of an unorganized body would not bring on the House of Representatives any one who may be here overthrown. He now invited to escape the consequences of the mere trickery which had prevailed a few days ago, by which a sovereign state had been deprived of her representation. For this purpose, he would move that these gentlemen be not sworn.

The object of Mr. Wise in presenting *this form* of the question was to avoid such a result as flowed from his submitting an affirmative proposition; which would have been and was rejected by a majority.

This movement gave great annoyance to the Van Burenites. They feared the effect, and instantly sent one effort to prevent the matter from being in that shape. Mr. Dromgoole especially showed great anxiety. He put a question upon the remarks of the chair (not known to parliamentary law) and then went on to insist that the house must consider and decide on the question, shall these members be sworn.

Mr. Wise very properly reminded Mr. Dromgoole that the chair had made for the chance of usurpation which was so hardly charged against Mr. Adams, was that he had assumed to submit a question to the house for his decision, instead of waiting till the question was raised by some member. This little fact was a poser for Mr. Dromgoole. It admitted of no answer. But, Mr. Wise contended that the speaker had not submitted a question of order to the house, but merely asked for the opinion of the house in a matter involving the great question of franchise. The subject being left to the house (Mr. Wise) had presented it in the form he wished, because he could not expect any manner on the other side to do it.

The member explained that he had not proposed any question to the house; but had merely indicated the course which he would pursue, were he not relieved by a motion from some member. But as a member had raised the question in a proper form, he would certainly entertain it.

Frank Thomas of Md. now attempted another track in order to defeat the decision of the question. He said *no other rule has been adopted*, he was not prohibited by any rule from doing so, when the proposition of Mr. Drumgoole was decided, Mr. Wise arose and with great spirit and emphasis "*Not all in!*" No, the