

News of the Week.

DOMESTIC.

The Republican National Convention met in Chicago on Tuesday, June 3d, and elected the Hon. John R. Lynch, a colored Mississippian, temporary chairman over ex-Senator Powell Clayton, of Arkansas, by a vote of 430 to 988. On Wednesday General John B. Henderson, of Missouri, was made permanent President of the Convention. The day was devoted chiefly to committee work. In the morning session of Thursday the platform was presented and adopted. After the proper introduction, and allusions to General Garfield and President Arthur, the platform presents the following planks:

"It is the first duty of a good Government to protect the rights and promote the interests of its own people. The largest diversity of industry is most productive of general prosperity and of the comfort and independence of the people. We therefore demand that the imposition of duties on foreign imports shall be made, not for revenue only, but that, in raising the requisite revenues for the Government, such duties shall be so levied as to afford security to our diversified industries and protection to the rights and wages of the laborer, to the end that active and intelligent labor, as well as capital, may have its just reward and the laboring man his full share in the national prosperity. Against the so-called economic system of the Democratic Party, which would degrade our labor to the foreign standard, we enter our earnest protest. The Democratic Party has failed completely to relieve the people of the burden of unnecessary taxation by a wise reduction of the surplus. The Republican Party pledges itself to correct the inequalities of the tariff, and to reduce the surplus, not by the vicious and indiscriminate process of horizontal reduction, but by such methods as will relieve the tax-payer without injuring the labor or the great productive interests of the country. We recognize the importance of sheep husbandry in the United States, the serious depression which it is now experiencing, and the danger threatening its future prosperity; and we therefore respect the demands of the representatives of this important agricultural interest for a readjustment of duty upon foreign wool, in order that such industry shall have full and adequate protection.

"We have always recommended the best money known to the civilized world, and we urge that an effort be made to unite all commercial nations in the establishment of an international standard which shall fix for all the relative value of gold and silver coinage.

"The regulation of commerce with foreign nations and between the states is one of the most important prerogatives of the General Government, and the Republican Party distinctly announces its purpose to support such legislation as will fully and efficiently carry out the constitutional power of Congress over inter-state commerce. The principle of the public regulation of railway corporations is a wise and salutary one for the protection of all classes of the people, and we favor legislation that shall prevent unjust discrimination and excessive charges for transportation, and that shall secure to the people and to the railways alike the fair and equal protection of the laws.

"We favor the establishment of a national bureau of labor, the enforcement of the eight-hour law, a wise and judicious system of general education by adequate appropriation from the national revenues wherever the same is needed.

"We believe that everywhere the protection to a citizen of American birth must be secured to citizens by American adoption, and we favor the settlement of national differences by international arbitration.

"The Republican Party, having its birth in a hatred of slave labor, and in a desire that all men may be free and equal, is unalterably opposed to placing our working men in competition with any form of servile labor, whether at home or abroad. In this spirit we denounce the importation of contract labor, whether from Europe or Asia, as an offense against the spirit of American institutions, and we pledge ourselves to sustain the present law restricting Chinese immigration and to provide such further legislation as is necessary to carry out its purposes.

"The reform of the civil service, auspiciously begun under Republican administration, should be completed by the further extension of the reformed system, already established by law, to all the grades of the service to which it is applicable. The spirit and purpose of the reform should be observed in all executive appointments, and all laws at variance with the objects of existing reformed legislation should be repealed, to the end that the dangers to free institutions which lurk in the power of official patronage may be wisely and effectively avoided.

"The public lands are the heritage of the people of the United States, and should be reserved as far as possible for small holdings by actual settlers. We are opposed to the acquisition of large tracts of these lands by corporations or individuals, especially where such holdings are in the hands of non-resident aliens, and we will endeavor to obtain such legislation as will tend to correct this evil.

"We demand of Congress the speedy forfeiture of all land grants which have lapsed by reason of non-compliance with acts of incorporation in all cases where there has been no attempt in good faith to perform the conditions of such grants.

"The grateful thanks of the American people are due to the Union soldiers and sailors of the late War, and the Republican Party stands pledged to suitable pensions for all who were disabled, and for the widows and orphans of those who died in the War. The Republican Party also pledges itself to the repeal of the limitation contained in the arrears act of 1879, so that all invalid soldiers shall share alike, and their pensions shall begin with the date of disability or discharge, and not with the date of the application.

"The Republican Party favors a policy which shall keep us from entangling alliances with foreign nations, and which shall give the right to expect that foreign nations shall refrain from meddling in American affairs—the policy which seeks peace and can trade with all powers, but especially with those of the western hemisphere.

"We demand the restoration of our Navy to its old-time strength and efficiency, that it may in any sea protect the rights of American citizens and the interests of American commerce, and we call upon Congress to remove the burdens under which American shipping has been depressed, so that it may again be true that we have a commerce which leaves no sea unexplored and a Navy which takes no law from superior force.

"Resolved, That appointments by the President to offices in the territories should be made from the bona fide citizens and residents of the territories which they are to serve.

"Resolved, That it is the duty of Congress to enact such laws as shall promptly and effectually suppress the system of polygamy within our territory, and divorce the political from the ecclesiastical power of the so-called Mormon Church, and that the law so enacted should be rigidly enforced by the civil authorities, if possible, and by the military, if need be.

"The people of the United States, in their organized capacity, constitute a nation, and not a mere confederacy of states. The National Government is supreme within the sphere of its national duty; but the states have reserved rights which should be faithfully maintained. Each should be guarded with jealous care, so that the harmony of our system of government may be preserved and the Union be kept inviolate. The perpetuity of our institutions rests upon the maintenance of a free ballot, an honest count and correct returns. We denounce the fraud and violence practiced by the Democracy in Southern States, by which the will of the voter is defeated, as dangerous to the preservation of free institutions; and we solemnly arraign the Democratic Party as being the guilty recipient of the fruits of such fraud and violence.

"We extend to the Republicans of the South, regardless of their former party affiliations, our cordial sympathy, and pledge to them our most earnest efforts to promote the passage of such legislation as will secure to every citizen, of whatever race or color, the full and complete recognition, possession, and exercise of all civil and political rights."

In the evening session of Thursday the names of James G. Blaine, Chester A. Arthur, George F. Edmunds, John A. Logan, John Sherman, Joseph R. Hawley, Robert T. Lincoln and W. T. Sherman were presented for the Presidential nomination. The balloting began on Friday with 819 delegates present, and 410 votes necessary to a choice. There were four ballots cast:

FIRST BALLOT.

James G. Blaine.....	334½
Chester A. Arthur.....	276
George F. Edmunds.....	93
John A. Logan.....	63½
John Sherman.....	80
Joseph R. Hawley.....	13
Robert T. Lincoln.....	4
W. T. Sherman.....	0

SECOND BALLOT.

James G. Blaine.....	349
Chester A. Arthur.....	276
George F. Edmunds.....	85
John A. Logan.....	61
John Sherman.....	23
Joseph R. Hawley.....	13
Robert T. Lincoln.....	4
W. T. Sherman.....	2

THIRD BALLOT.

James G. Blaine.....	376
Chester A. Arthur.....	274
George F. Edmunds.....	69
John A. Logan.....	53
John Sherman.....	25
Joseph R. Hawley.....	3
Robert T. Lincoln.....	8
W. T. Sherman.....	2

FOURTH BALLOT.

James G. Blaine.....	541
Chester A. Arthur.....	307
George F. Edmunds.....	41
John A. Logan.....	7
Joseph R. Hawley.....	15
Robert T. Lincoln.....	2

At the end of the third ballot a motion was made to adjourn in the interest of the anti-Blaine men. This was lost by 450 nays, and the victory was virtually won by James G. Blaine. The fourth ballot gave him a majority of 192 votes, and the nomination was afterward made unanimous. The evening session of Friday was the last session of the Convention. With little excitement, John A. Logan was nominated for Vice-President by acclamation.

....The quiet village of Hammonton, New Jersey, was greatly excited last week over the discovery of the bodies of twenty-one children buried in a small plot of ground attached to a sanitarium called the Nivison Home, under the supervision of Miss S. S. Nivison. An examination by the doctors brought to light the information that, out of twenty-three babies sent to the Home within the past few months, only two are now alive. An explanation of the absence of the others was found when the physicians were led into the yard and twenty-one bodies exhumed. The bodies lay in soap boxes and barrels at the bottom of a deep trench. Upon the inquiry for the certificates of death the physicians were told that at the death of each unfortunate, without communication to the county authorities, the little ones were buried in such empty boxes as could be found. The case has been placed in the

*Contesting delegations were admitted to the Convention, each of the contestants being allowed half a vote.

hands of Prosecuting Attorney Joseph Thompson.

....The Senate, on Monday of last week, passed bills providing for the collection of statistics of marriage and divorce, for the repression of the opium traffic, and to establish a forest reservation on the headwaters of the Missouri River, and Clark's Forks, on the Columbia River. On Tuesday bills were passed granting an annual leave of absence, with pay, to the letter carriers, and regulating the payment of bills of exchange. The Senate was not in session on Wednesday and Thursday. A petition was presented on Friday from citizens of Kansas, praying that General Fremont be placed on the retired list. A bill was introduced to abolish the Court of Claims. There was no session on Saturday.

....In the House of Representatives, on Monday of last week, the Legislative Appropriation bill was amended and passed. On Tuesday a bill was passed to prevent the unlawful occupancy of the public lands. On Wednesday the Oregon Central land grant forfeiture bill was passed, and on Thursday the California and Oregon land grant forfeiture bill was passed. On Saturday a bill was passed determining the jurisdiction of United States Circuit Courts. The General Deficiency appropriation bill was reported. Bills to repeal the Civil Service act were reported adversely. The consideration of the bill repealing the Pre-emption and Timber Culture laws was begun.

....General O. E. Babcock, private secretary of General Grant, during the latter's Presidency, was drowned on June 2d in Mosquito Inlet, off the coast of Florida. He had been for some time lighthouse inspector for the 6th District.

....The Independent Republicans, of New York, are calling a meeting for consultation. It will be held in New York, on June 17th.

....John C. Eno, the defaulting bank president, is still held in Quebec.