

couldn't refuse; and just as soon as I tasted it I knew it was my whisky."

I could not express any sympathy for him, as I never had any for the traffic.

On my return, the boys at Peterson were very commuricative upon the subject, and wished to know when Old Tar would pass that way again with liquor, as they were getting dry again. They had secreted the whisky in a patch of weeds near the barracks, and when Old Tar had retired to rest they brought it into camp and apportioned it out—filling each man's canteen, and then hid the keg and jug in a manger of one of their stables, covering it over with hay. This was the last time that any one attempted to carry intoxicating liquors in quantity along that line of military posts while soldiers were stationed there.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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THE FIRST DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS IN THE  
STATE OF IOWA.

BY LYSANDER W. BABBITT, COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA.

(Continued from page 656, Vol. IX.)

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 6th, 1848.

CAUCUS met pursuant to adjournment—Mr. Corse in the chair, and L. W. Babbitt secretary.

The roll being called, all the members answered to their names.

Mr. Bradley moved that an informal ballot be taken for candidates for supreme judges, and that the person having the highest number of votes and being a majority of all the votes cast, be the candidate for chief justice.

Mr. Harbor moved to amend by striking out all after the word "judges." Which motion was lost, and the original motion was agreed to.

Mr. Bradley then moved that the caucus take a recess of ten minutes, for electioneering purposes. Agreed to.

It was during this recess that the writer hereof, having satisfied himself that the Hon. Joseph Williams had only fourteen votes in the caucus that could be relied upon, suggested to several members the propriety of giving Williams a complimentary vote on the first and informal ballot.

The recess having expired, the chairman called the caucus to order, and the caucus proceeded to ballot for candidates for supreme judges — Messrs. Harbor and Bradley acting as tellers — with the following result:—

Joseph Williams.....	23
✓George Green.....	16
✓John F. Kinney.....	15
✓S. C. Hastings.....	11
✓J. C. Hall.....	9
✓J. C. Knapp.....	6
✓Thomas Wilson.....	6
✓Enoch W. Eastman.....	6
✓Ed. Johnston.....	5
✓Curtis Bates.....	5
✓William Thompson.....	4
✓Stephen Hempstead.....	4
Philip Bradley.....	4

The result of the balloting being announced by the chair, L. W. Babbitt arose and said: "Mr. Chairman — The Hon. Joseph Williams having received a majority of all the votes cast in this convention — twenty votes being necessary to secure a nomination — I move that the Hon. Joseph Williams be declared the unanimous nominee of this convention for the office of chief justice of the supreme court." Which motion was put and carried.

Mr. Harbor moved that the caucus take another recess of ten minutes; which motion prevailed.

It was during this recess that Mr. Harbor, who had given Williams a complimentary vote, came to me and said: "G—d d—n your complimentary vote; it nominated the old fiddler."

The caucus was again called to order by the chairman, and, Mr. Hall's name being withdrawn, a second ballot was had, with the following result:—

✓George Greene.....	25
✓John F. Kinney.....	18
✓S. C. Hastings.....	16
✓Curtis Bates.....	5
✓Enoch W. Eastman.....	4
✓Thomas Wilson.....	4
✓J. C. Knapp.....	2
✓Ed. Johnston.....	2

The result being declared, Mr. Bradley moved that the nomination of Mr. Greene be made unanimous; which was agreed to.

Mr. Griffith moved that the caucus proceed to ballot for a third candidate for supreme judge; which motion prevailed, and the ballot was had, with the result following:—

John F. Kinney.....	19
S. C. Hastings.....	16
Curtis Bates.....	3

The result being declared, and there being no choice, on motion of Mr. McFarland, a fourth ballot was had, as follows:—

John F. Kinney.....	22
S. C. Hastings.....	16

On motion of Mr. Mahony, the nomination of Mr. Kinney was made unanimous, and, there being no further business, the caucus adjourned.

On the 7th day of December, 1848, the nominees of this democratic cauces were elected, in joint convention of the two houses, to the offices for which they were nominated—Messrs. Dodge and Jones receiving thirty-eight votes each, and Messrs. Wm. H. Wallace and Ralph P. Lowe nineteen votes each. Those who voted for Augustus C. Dodge and George W. Jones were:—

Messrs. Alexander, ✓Alger, ✓Babbitt, ✓Baker, ✓Betts, ✓Bon-

ham, Bradley, Casady, Collins, Corse, Crawford, Davidson, Elmer, Espy, Evans, Fear, Flint, Gifford, Griffith, Harrison, Harbor, Howell, Jacobs, Langton, Mahony, McFarland, Morton, Penny, Reed, Riggs, Royston, Sales, Sargent, Shields, Walker, Weyand, Wood, and Mr. President, J. J. Selman — 38.

Those gentlemen who voted for William H. Wallace and Ralph P. Lowe were: —

Messrs. Allison, Bourne, Browning, Burroughs, Cook, Goodrell, Jay, McCrary, McManaman, Sanford, Springer, Sprott, Stevenson, Timmons, Thompson, Wheeler, Williams, Woodworth, and Wright — 19.

The democratic nominees for judges, Messrs. Williams, Greene, and Kinney, were elected over their whig opponents, Messrs. Whitcher, Howell, and Davis, by the same vote that the senators received, with this exception: Mr. Sprott voted for the democratic candidates, giving them thirty-nine votes to eighteen votes for their whig opponents.

This, Mr. Editor, comprises all, perhaps, that is interesting in relation to the first democratic legislative caucus in Iowa, at which senators and judges of the supreme court were nominated, and afterwards elected, in joint convention of the two houses of the general assembly. It may, however, be interesting to some, as giving some idea of the character of the men elected and of the custom that then prevailed upon such occasions, to give a description of the manner the friends of the nominees of the senators were treated the evening after their nomination.

As soon as the caucus adjourned, after the nomination of senators, General Jones, who was present, in his usual impulsive and generous manner, cried out, "Come, boys — friends, everybody — let's go and have some refreshments." By the time I had my minutes of the proceedings closed and in my pocket, I was left alone, for the members and the crowd had all either retired to their homes and boarding houses, or had followed General Jones to the refreshment

establishment. Being of the refreshment class myself, I proceeded to hunt up that establishment. I found it located on the north-east corner of the public square, and to be what was then called a first-class restaurant, with whisky-shop in connection. As a matter of course, as the invitation was general, the crowd was not very select. Friends, foes, old men, young men, members of the legislature and lobbyists, boys, gamblers — in short, every class was represented, from the governor of the state down to the rag-tag and bob-tail of the city. The gathering was exceedingly promiscuous. General Jones was all life and was going in with a hurrah, saying, "Call for what you want, who in h—l cares for expenses," and the crowd were going in — some for stewed oysters and some for raw ones, some for "whisky straight" and others for hot toddy and "Tom and Jerry." General Jones was here, and there, and everywhere. Judge Williams was amusing the crowd by singing "Lucy Neal," and "I'll bet my money on the bob-tailed hoss, who will bet on the bay?" and John P. Cook was helping on the fun by imitating the Judge and mimicking his singing. Everything was in accord in the way of eating, drinking, and in fun; but in terrible discord as to the mode and manner of procuring it.

At last General Jones noticed that General Dodge was not present, and the cry was, "Where is Dodge? where is Dodge?" until nothing else could be heard. At last a committee was appointed to hunt up the General, and he was soon brought into the crowd. The General, in his usual affable manner, spoke to such as knew him, and then called General Jones aside, when the following conversation, as near as I can recollect, took place:—

*Dodge.*—Jones, what is the meaning of all this? This is not the way to entertain our friends. You should have waited until we could have prepared to entertain our friends with supper gotten up in regular order, and where all could have been present. They are not here now. Where is Judge Mason, Colonel Hall, Leffler, Colonel Hempstead? They are not here, and this looks more like an entertain-

ment for the *rabble* than for friends, and, besides, this eating of oysters out of the can, with every one with a can in his hand is a fearful waste of the *raw* material.

*Jones*.—Never mind, General; we are in it now; let's go ahead; who the d—l cares for expenses?

*Dodge*.—It is not the expenses that I look at, but the *manner* of entertaining friends. Here are Judge Williams, Cook, and other of our friends, but the *mass* are not here. The majority are whisky soakers, who make the occasion *their* opportunity.

*Jones*.—Slapping the General on the shoulder, "Never mind, General let's put it through."

And it was put through; and the result was a bill of between four and five hundred dollars for Dodge and Jones to foot the next day.

After their election, the senators and judges gave a sumptuous supper to their friends at the Crummy House, to which all the members of the legislature were invited, and a grand social time was had, in accordance with the calm and dignified ideas of General Dodge.

In the first instance we have the impulsive character of General Jones illustrated, showing his ability to carry his measures, as it were, by storm; while in the latter we have the calm and deliberate character of General Dodge portrayed, showing his tactics of success to lie in calm and deliberate calculation. This accounts for the great success of the two generals in their congressional career, and the two characters were highly necessary at that time in placing Iowa in what may now be called the front rank of states, with a bright future before her.

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