# *VIRGINIA.*

## REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION—MAJOR R. W. HUGHES NOMINATED FOR GOVERNOR.

*Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.*

RICHMOND, July 30.—For several days past the delegates to the Republican State Convention, and the friends of the various aspirants for nomination for Governor, &c., have been gathering at Lynchburg, a large number, both white and colored, going from this city. Yesterday was quite an exciting time, the caucussing being very active and zealous, both for Major Edward McMahon, the free railroad candidate, and for Col. Robert W. Hughes, who is understood to be opposed to free railroads. Both were urgently pressed by the supporters, and as good Republicans there was no choice between them, but Col. Hughes had the advantage in being better known, and in having been earlier put forward for the nomination. In fact, but a week or ten days ago, Major McMahon declined to be a candidate, and it was only a few days since that he agreed to allow his name to be used in connection with the nomination. However, he had strong and earnest supporters, such as United States Senator John F. Lewis, Gen. Williams, C. Wickham, Hon. J. Ambler Smith, of this Congressional District, Col. M. G. Harman, of Staunton, and other prominent and influential men, and though but a few days in the contest he had gaided considerable strength, till his friends yesterday, at Lynchburg, mustered in alarming force, threatening to give the supporters of Col. Hughes a hard struggle in the convention. But the opposing parties quickly ascertained the actual strength which they could muster in the convention, and it was seen that Col. Hughes was the stronger man, especially among the colored delegates, who naturally viewed with suspicion the late movement of a new and comparatively unknown man against Col. Hughes, who has been so long known as the Ajax of the party in Virginia. The result was that frequent negotiations between leading representatives of both sides took place yesterday, and last night and this morning, in a caucus of the delegates, preliminary to the meeting of the convention, it was agreed that Major McMahon's name should be withdrawn, and a clear field left for Col. Hughes. The convention formally met at 3 P. M. in Holcombe Hall, and was called to order by Dr. C. S. Mills, of this city, Chairman of the Republican State Committee, and Gen. William C. Wickham was made temporary President of the body. Committees on Credentials and Permanent Organization were appointed, and during the absence of the committees, who at once retired to prepare their reports, the convention was addressed by Edward Daniels, Esq., editor of the Richmond *State Journal;* Prof. R. T. Green, colored, editor of the Washington *New Era;* Hon. L. H. Chandler, Hon. James H. Platte, Jr., C. J. Malord, (colored,) and others. The Committee on Permanent Organization reported Hon. J. B. Sever, of Fredericksburg, for permanent President, with nine Vice Presidents, &c. Hon. James H. Platte proposed R. G. L. Paige (colored,) a young member of the last House of Delegates, from Norfolk County, for President, in place of Mr. Sever, when the President pro tem ruled the report and all amendments out of order, as the Committee on Credentials had not yet reported. A recess was then taken till 8:30 P. M.

It is believed that Col. R. W. Hughes of Washington County, will be nominated for Governor unanimously, and that C. P. Ramsdel, of Surrey County, will be nominated for Lieutenant Governor. Mr. Ramsdel has been a member of the Legislature for several sessions, where he was much respected by all partiesfor his capacity and character. It is understood that the colored delegates will not press a colored candidate against him.

The entire proceedings of the convention were exceedingly harmonious.

A reporter of the Associated Press interviewed Senator Thurman to-night to learn his position relative to the departure just inaugurated. The Senator said that the statement made in the Liberal Republican caucus last night by Col. Lowe, that Mr. Thurman was favorable to this new movement, was entirely erroneous. The facts are as follows: In a conversation between these gentlemen, Mr. Thurman said that the charge so often made in the Cincinnati *Commercial* and *Volksblatt*, that it was his active opposition that caused the Democracy to reject the movement, was unfounded; that he had not written a single letter on the subject, and that the opposition of the Democracy was their unbiased feelings. From this statement Col. Lowe drew the erroneous conclusion that Thurman was not at heart opposed to the convention of to-day. The truth is that the Senator always considered this movement as a great mistake, and while he would have been glad to see all the elements of opposition to the Administration consolidated, he has not believed, and does not believe, that a dispersion of the Democratic Party is either necessary or advisable.

In view of the proceedings of the convention to-day, the Democrats say that there is but one course left for them to pursue—that the August convention will nominate a Democratic ticket, and make a more vigorous fight than the party has made for many years.

Interviews had with other prominent Democrats of Ohio, now here, all indicate that the nominees of to-day's convention can hope for nothing from the Democratic Party leaders, and that the 6th of August Convention will ignore the movement, and nominate a full ticket of their own.

The convention reassembled at Holcombe Hall at 8:30 o'clock to-night, but the recess, instead of promoting harmony, seems to have renewed the discord which it was thought had been settled in the caucus. The report of the Committee on credentials was received and adopted, and the report of the Committee on Permanent Organization was again presented, when the name of Hon. J. B. Senor was withdrawn for permanent President, and R. G. L. Paige, (colored,) of Norfolk County, was elected.

A motion to proceed to the nomination of State officers met with considerable opposition, but was at last carried after much confusion had been produced. Major Carter, of Fauqueir, nominated Col. Robert W. Hughes, for Governor; and Gen. Wickham nominated Major Edward McMahon, the compact of the morning, for the withdrawal of the latter being utterly disrupted. Then followed a number of speeches by the friends of the opposing candidates, in which much was said on both sides that should have remained unsaid. A great deal of temper was mutually exhibited.

Crimination was met by recrimination, and at times the disorder threatened to result in blows. At midnight a motion to call the roll was carried, the call being made by counties. Twenty-eight counties had been called, of which twenty-four voted for Hughes and only four for McMahon, when Gen. Wickham asked leave to withdrow McMahon.

This was at first opposed, but was at length agreed to, when Major McMahon himself moved that Col. Hughes be nominated by acclamation, which was accordingly done with great unanimity and enthusiasm. A Committeee on Resolutions was then appointed.

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