



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTH STATE CONVENTION

OF THE

Kenian Protherhood

OF THE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

Held at San Francisco, November 13th, 14th and 15th, 1867,

CONVENED AT 10 O'CLOCK, A. M., AT

ARMORY OF THE McMAHON GRENADIER GUARD.



SAN FRANCISCO:

MULLIN, MAHON & CO., PRINTERS, Cor. CLAY & SANSOME STS.

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CONVENTION



ARMORY OF THE MCMAHON GRENADER GUARD.

MULLIN, MAHON & OO, PRINTERS, COL. CLAY & SANSOME 1867.

ELECTIVE OFFICERS.

STATE CENTRE.					
JOHN HAMILL SAN FRANCISCO					
TREASURER.					
MYLES D. SWEENY					
SECRETARY.					
JOHN HAMILL					
STATE CENTRAL COUNCIL.					
MAPTIN TAPPEN					
MARTIN TARPEYSAN FRANCISCO					
M. E. HUGHES					
Hon. FRANK MAHON					
TIMOTHY LYNCH					
A. J. DUNLEAVEY					
JAMES McGUIRESACRAMENTO					
P. KERRIGAN,SMARTSVILLE					
P. W. DILLON BENICIA					
M. TARPEY WATSONVILLE					
C. REILLEY GRASS VALLEY					
J. KAVENAUGH PETALUMA					
M. O'REILEY Howland Flat					
W. P. DOUGHERTYSAN JOSE					

ELECTIVE OFFICERS.

MYLES D. SVEN CONTROLL CONTROLS CONTROLL CONTROL

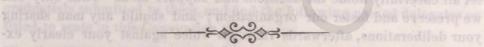
PROCEEDINGS

So able to acquaint them with all matters appendicible, to our associa-

charge bey obligations to those salan bearted and true men who endeaver a viscipline and direct the patriotion of the hish people in the

FIFTH STATE CONVENTION

OF THE FENIAN BROTHERHOOD.



In conformity to the call of the State Centre, John Hamill, the delegates of the various Circles of the Fenian Brotherhood of California assembled at the Armory of the McMahon Grenadier Guard. of San Francisco, November 13, 1867, at ten o'clock, A. M.

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The State Centre called the Convention to order at the appointed hour, and briefly addressed the assembled delegates as follows:

Brothers and Representatives of the Fenian Brotherhood of the State of California:

In consonance with the precedents of the past, and in compliance with the call of the 5th of October, we have again met in the interests of Ireland and liberty.

Many of you, at much inconvenience and a great deal of expense, have travelled long distances to be present on this occasion, thereby giving another evidence, if any were wanting, that neither time, place, circumstances, nor the vicissitudes of life, nor aught on earth can swerve you from the sustainment of the cause to which, with an unselfish generosity, you have plighted your faith and fealty.

The officers to whose directions you committed the organization in the past term, will endeavor to compensate you to some extent for the trouble of coming here, by placing unreservedly before you all the information in their possession, and to your hands restore the trusts committed to their keeping.

They invite a close scrutiny of the manner in which they have discharged their duties, so that on your return to your constituents you may be able to acquaint them with all matters appertaining to our association.

When the Convention is organized, you, gentlemen, will be the custodians of the honor and interests of the Fenian Brotherhood of this State, and on you will devolve the responsibilty of determining in what manner California can best promote the interests of Ireland, and discharge her obligations to those gallant-hearted and true men who endeavor to discipline and direct the patriotism of the Irish people in the path to freedom.

It is scarcely to be presumed, coming as you do from various portions of the State, and representing as you do all classes of our countrymen, that differences of opinion will not arise. Whatever differences of opinion may exist, this is the place to discuss and settle them. That done, and the will of this Convention being fully and fairly expressed, let all cheerfully abide the decisions and support them. Thus only can we preserve and foster our organization; and should any man sharing your deliberations, afterwards raise his voice against your clearly expressed will, let him be accounted henceforth a traitor unworthy of trust or honor among Irishmen.

Permit me to counsel you to strict reticence with regard to affairs herein transacted, and entreat of you close a d immediate attention to the business of the Convention, that as little unfinished business as possible may be left at your adjournment.

Permit me also to indulge my hopes and give expression to a wish that your deliberations may be harmonious, and the result of this Convention such as will give renewed hope to our people, and stimulate to a renewed activity our associated brothers on the Pacific slope, that when the call to arms comes it may find us prepared to worthily do our duty to our country and the principles we have vowed to maintain.

On the conclusion of the State Centre's remarks, Mr. D. Campbell moved that a Committee of five on Credentials be appointed by the Chair. Seconded and carried.

The Chair appointed as said Committee—

- D. CAMPBELL, Smartsville.
- J. MAHONEY, Sacramento.
- J. MINAHAN, San Jose.
- T. LYNCH, Emmet Circle, S. F.
- JAMES HARROLD, Clontarf Circle, S. F.

T. J. Powers moved that the Committee on Credentials have power to select the permanent officers of the Convention. Seconded and carried.

A. J. Dunleavey moved that a Committee of three on Order of Business be appointed. Seconded and carried. The Chair appointed—

A. J. DUNLEAVEY, P. W. DILLON,

JAMES BIGGINS.

Mr. Dunleavey moved that the Committee appointed do now proceed to business, and report at two o'clock, P. M. Carried.

Convention then adjourned until two o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention called to order at two o'clock, by State Centre Hamill.

Committee on Credentials, through their Chairman, Mr. D. Campbell, of Smartsville, Yuba county, made the following report:

State Centre and Gentlemen:—Your Committee have examined the credentials submitted to them, and find the following named delegates entitled to seats in this Convention:

WM. R. STEWART.

JAMES HARROLD,

J. CONNELLY, T. LYNCH.

C. REARDON, J. CONNELLY.

J. MAHONY,

P. RUTLEDGE.

D. CAMPBELL,

F. MAHON.

T. J. POWERS,

J. MINAHAN, W. P. DOUGHERTY.

SERG'T P. MORRIS.

J. BIGGINS,

E. DOOLY,

P. FENTON.

H. CURRAN.

P. DOOLY,

COLUMBIA CIRCLE.

CLONTARF CIRCLE.

EMMET CIRCLE, San Francisco.

WOLFTONE CIRCLE, Sonora.

EMMET CIRCLE, Sacramento.

Mendocino.

EMMET CIRCLE, Smartsville.

SARSFIELD CIRCLE, San Francisco.

Marysville.

CORCORAN CIRCLE, San Jose.

Camp Bidwell.

EMMET CIRCLE, Petaluma.

Grass Valley.

Santa Clara.

Folsom.

Point San Jose.

M. TARPEY.

A. J. DUNLEAVEY.

P. TAGGART. T. C. KEATING,

W. FARRELL, P. W. DILLON,

CHAS. MURPHY.

P. DILLON,

LAVELLE CIRCLE, Watsonville.

WOLFTONE CIRCLE, San Francisco.

MISSION CIRCLE.

W. F. WHITE, EMMET CIRCLE, Santa Cruz.

Napa.

Vallejo.

Your Committee recommend for permanent Officers, the following named gentlemen:

PRESIDENT, H. CURRAN, Folsom.

VICE-PRESIDENTS,A. J. DUNLEAVEY, San Francisco.

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SECRETARIES,T. J. POWERS.

"J. D. CONNELLY.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.......P. FENTON.

DANIEL CAMPBELL. JOHN MINAHAN, JOHN MAHONEY, T. LYNCH, JAMES HARROLD.

} Committee.

The report was received and adopted.

The State Centre introduced Mr. Curran to the Convention, eulogizing his patriotism and ability to properly discharge the duties of the position.

Mr. Curran took the Chair amid much applause, and in an able speech thanked the Convention for the honor done him, and promised to discharge the duties of the position in a spirit of fairness and impartiality. and urging harmony and unity among the representatives assembled.

The Secretaries came forward and assumed their respective duties

Mr. Foley came forward and asked permission to speak. Granted.

Mr. Foley entered his protest against Mr. Taggert and J. C. Keating, of Mission Circle, being allowed seats in the Convention.

Mr. Foley resuming his seat, Mr. Hamill rose to an explanation, and stating that after the adjournment of the last State Convention, the Circle which the gentlemen represented withdrew from the State organiza. tion, but subsequently, seeing their error, they returned to their allegiance and placed in my hands the following resolutions, which I herewith submit for the information of this Convention:

"Whereas, At the time of holding the State Convention of the Fenian Brotherhood, in October last, we were in possession of information to the effect that our brothers in Ireland would certainly take the field before the close of the year 1866, to fight for Ireland's freedom; and

WHEREAS, Placing implicit reliance in the authenticity of said information, we severed our connection with the State organization for the purpose of rendering such aid as we were capable of giving to the men who pledged their honor and manhood to verify their promises, and strike another blow at our hereditary enemy; and

WHEREAS. Our expectations have not been realized, nor have the promises made to us been fulfilled, and therefore isolated action not being in our opinion longer useful, nor calculated to advance our country's cause, nor likely to elevate the character of Irishmen in the estimation of our fellow-citizens, but rather calculated to give pain to Ireland's friends and comfort to Ireland's enemies; therefore be it

Resolved. That this Circle do hereby recognize the Constitution of the Fenian Brotherhood, adopted at Philadelphia, and subsequently reaffirmed at Pittsburg, and more recently at Troy, as the supreme law of the Fenian Brotherhood of the United States.

Resolved, That we hereby recognize Colonel Roberts as President of our organization, and pledge to the Irish army now being equipped under the direction of said President and the Senate of the Fenian Brotherhood, our undivided support.

Resolved, That we hereby declare our adhesion to and our determination to sustain the State organization, and its officers duly elected by the State Convention on the 20th of October, 1866.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be placed in the hands of the State Centre, John Hamill, and that he be requested to reopen communications with this Circle.

JOHN HAMILL. Esq., S. C. F. B. C.—Dear Sir:—The foregoing resolutions were unanimously adopted at a meeting of the Mission Circle, F. B., held Tuesday, 29th January, 1867."

JAMES SHIELDS,

Secretary.

Several gentlemen made most pertinent remarks on the question pending, and after some discussion it was moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be tendered to Mr. Foley for the patriotic motives that induced him to come before the Convention and give instructive information. Carried.

The Convention decided that the gentlemen were entitled to their seats.

San Francisco, November 13, 1867.

To the Officers and Members of the Fifth State Convention of California:

GENTLEMEN: - Your Committee on Order of Business respectfully recommend the following Order of Business:

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1.—Report of State Officers.
- 2.—Reading of Correspondence.
 - 3.—Examination of Financial Affairs.
- 4.—Present State and Future Policy of the California Branch of the Organization.
- 5.—Revision of Rules of Government.
- 6.—Election of State Officers.
 - 7.—Adjournment.

Your Committee also recommend the adoption of "Cushing's Manual," as Rules of Order.

A. J. DUNLEAVEY,
P. W. DILLON,
JAMES BIGGINS,
Committee.

On motion, report received and adopted.

Mr. Hamill introduced to the Convention our much honored State Treasurer, Myles D. Sweeny, who was received in the most cordial manner, and who made a most eloquent appeal to all trishmen to be united. and rally to the cause of Ireland. His remarks were enthusiastically received.

On motion, the thanks of the Convention were tendered to Mr-Sweeny.

Moved and seconded that the State Officers of F. B. of this State, be invited to seats and voices in this Convention. Carried

Moved and seconded that a Committee of three be appointed to examine State Secretary's report, and the books and accounts of the F. B. of California. Carried.

The Chair appointed

FARRELL, of Benicia, Mahony, of Sacramento, Dunleavey. of San Francisco,

as Finance Committee.

Mr. Campbell moved to adjourn to ten o'clock, to-morrow. Motion lost.

John Hamill, Esq., State Centre. came forward and read his annual report to the Convention, which was received with marks of pleasure and approval. (See page 19.)

On motion of T. J. Powers, that the State Centre's report be unanimously adopted. Carried.

Mr. Hamill then proceeded to read correspondence containing letters and telegrams from the President of the F. B. The sentiments and views expressed in said letters met the views of the Convention, and were warmly applauded.

Mr. Hamill next read his letter to the Cleaveland Congress, and the statements therein contained were unanimously endorsed by the Convention.

Several letters from Colonel Walsh were read, which gave great satisfaction, and were received with cheers for the writer and the news contained in them.

Moved and seconded, that we do now adjourn to $7\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock, P. M. Motion carried.

NIGHT SESSION, November 13th.

President Curran presiding.

Convention called to order at eight o'clock.

Mr. White moved that a Committee of five be appointed by this Convention, to confer with a similar number of the dissenting portion of the F. B. in this city, and that the members of said Committee from this Convention be selected from the country delegates.

A very lively discussion ensued, participated in by many gentlemen.

Motion put and carried.

The Chair appointed Messrs. W. F. White, T. J. Powers, Matthew Tarpey, C. Rierdon and W. Farrell as the Committee of Conference.

Sergeant Morris, of Camp Bidwell, here informed the Convention that he had just received orders that rendered his return to his post necessary, but before leaving he would pledge his Circle for at *least* five hundred dollars towards the sum required by the Cleveland Congress.

He believed when the news he had to communicate to his brothers and friends in his neighborhood would reach them, that they would double the sum he named.

Motion by State Centre Hamill, that the thanks of the Fenian Brotherhood of California be hereby tendered to Sergeant Morris and the Boys in Blue of Camp Bidwell Military Station, for their liberal contributions to our organization. Unanimously carried.

State Centre Hamill read a letter just received from President Roberts, which was enthusiastically received.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until ten o'clock, A. M., November 14th.

Morning Session, Thursday, November 14th.

President Curran presiding.

House called to order at ten o'clock.

Minutes of previous day read, and on motion adopted.

State Centre read a letter from D. J. Mahony, Centre Virginia City Circle, Nevada, which was patriotic and able, and well received.

State Centre also read a letter from M. O'Reilly, Esq., Howland Flat, Sierra county, pledging his Circle for five hundred dollars; and numerous other letters all promising to use their best efforts to sustain the efforts of our brothers in the Eastern States.

Motion to go into Committee of the Whole was put and lost.

Motion that a Committee of three be appointed on Address and Resolutions, carried.

Chair appointed Messrs. Tarpey, White and Murphy.

On motion, it was unanimously resolved to add the State Centre and President Curran to the Committee.

Moved and seconded that this Convention do now adjourn to meet at eight o'clock, this evening. Carried.

EVENING SESSION.

Convention called to order at eight o'clock, P. M.

President Curran in the Chair.

On motion, reading minutes of former session dispensed with.

Committee on Finance made their report. (See page 32.)
State Centre John Hamill read Secretary's report, giving in detail

the receipts and disbursements of the organization for the last year. in connection with the report of the Finance Committee. (See page 26.)

Report of Committee adopted unanimously, as read.

State Centre John Hamill made a motion that Wm. Farrell and Mr. P. W. Dillon be tendered a vote of thanks for special services rendered to this organization. Carried, with cheers.

A telegram from President Roberts was read by State Centre Hamill, which elicited much applause. Mr. II. recommended the appointment of a Military Board, and that the military oath be printed and sent to the Centre of each Circle.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Dunleavey:

Resolved, That the State Convention recommend and do hereby empower the S. C. C. to appoint a Military Board, whose duty it shall be to organize the military department, provided the action of the Military Board shall be concurred in by the State Centre and State Central Council. Carried.

Declaration of principles of the Cleaveland Congress read, and on motion was unanimously adopted as read, as the sentiments of this Convention.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE.

Committee report progress, and on motion was allowed further time. Committee on Address and Resolutions asked further time. Granted

Moved and seconded that the Secretary of the C. C. be instructed to invite the members of the S. C. C. to attend the Convention. Carried.

Moved and seconded that any member who feels disposed to address the Convention for the good of the organization be heard. Carried.

Moved and seconded that a vote be taken in the matter of having a Fenian organ. The motion was carried.

Moved and seconded that a committee of five be appointed by the Chair to present a plan for the establishment of a Fenian organ. Committee to consist of Messrs. White, Hamill, Mahon, Powers, Fenton, to report at tomorrow. Carried.

On motion, Convention adjourned to 10 o'clock, A. M., Friday.

Morning Session, Nov. 15th, 1867.

President Curran presiding.

Convention called to order at 10½ o'clock.

Minutes of previous day read, corrected and adopted.

Mr. White, Chairman of Committee on the establishment of a Fenian journal in this State, offered the following resolution:

Resolved. That this Convention recommend to the Fenian Brother-hood of the State of California, the establishing of a newspaper which shall be entirely under their control and exclusively devoted to their interest, and which shall be the property of the organization.

Resolution unanimously adopted.

The following resolution was offered by F. Mahon:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this Convention, whose duty it shall be to devise ways and means in furtherance of the object suggested by the Committee on Address and Resolutions, recommending the establishment of a Fenian organ; and it is recommended that the said committee be composed of the following gentlemen:

Sleading welfed to lorder at balf-past 8 From the country.

Mr. CURRAN, of Folsom. Mr. WHITE, of Santa Cruz. Mr. TARPEY, of Santa Cruz. Mr. J. MAHONY, of Sacramento. Mr. POWERS, of Marysville. Mr. FENTON, of Santa Clara.

From the city. \(\begin{aligned} \text{Messrs. MARTIN TARPEY.} \\ \text{PHILIP MARKEY.} \\ \text{PHILIP MARKEY.} \end{aligned} \)

JOHN HAMILL.

Carried unanimously. A communication was read from Myles D. Sweeny, Esq., resigning his position as treasurer.

On motion, it was received and placed on file.

A motion that we now adjourn till 2 o'clock, P. M. Carried.

On request of several members, Mr. A. J. Dunleavey moved for a reconsideration of the vote on adjournment, which was carried. The Convention resumed business.

Mr. Farrell moved that this Convention recommend to all Circles in the State to use all means in their power to raise the sum of fifty thousand dollars, or more, immediately to assist in the cause.

On motion the Convention adjourned till 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION, Nov. 15, 1867.

President Hugh Curran, presiding. Meeting called to order at 2½ o'clock.

Minutes of morning session were read, and, on motion, approved of as read.

The Committee on Resolutions and Addresses—through one of the Committee, Mr. Tarpey—was read, and was, on motion, unanimously adopted (See page —).

On motion of Mr. Mahony, that the Address be published in as many papers as in the good judgment of the Committee on Printing may see proper; and also that five hundred extra copies of the address be printed in pamphlet form. Carried.

Mr. Connelly asked permission to read an Address to the Convention.

Permission was, on motion, granted, and Mr. Connelly read a very able and well written address, which was well received; and on motion, a vote of thanks was returned to Mr. Connelly for his very well written address. Carried.

Motion to adjourn to 8 o'clock this evening. Carried.

EVENING SESSION, Nov. 15. 1867.

President Curran presiding. Meeting called to order at half-past 8 o'clock. Minutes of afternoon session read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Campbell, that a committee be appointed to draft an address to the people of Ireland—amended by Mr. Keating to refer the resolutions to the Committee on Resolutions and Address—the amendment was lost.

Mr. Campbell's motion was adopted, and the following gentlemen appointed by the Chair: John Hamill, J. D. Connelly, Timothy Lynch, F. Mahon, Daniel Campbell.

Convention took a recess until the Committee on Conference were ready to report.

The Convention was called to order at 9 o'clock.

Mr. White, Chairman of Committee on Conference, reported that no arrangement could be effected with the dissenters, and would recommend the Convention to proceed with the election of the State officers

immediately and conclude the business; and would also recommend that no notice be taken of the existence of any Fenians in the State but those represented here.

It was moved and seconded that the report of the Conference Committee be not received until further explanation be given. Carried. Whereupon several members of said committee made statements which demonstrated to the entire satisfaction of the Convention that union with the dissenters was not possible. After a lengthy explanation and debate, it was moved and seconded that the report of the committee be received and the committee discharged. Carried.

Mr. D. Campbell moved to go into election of officers. Carried.

For State Centre, Mr. Hamill was nominated by Mr. Tarpey, and seconded by Mr. Dooly, and unanimously elected. His election was hailed with unanimous applause. He made a patriotic and eloquent speech, which was enthusiastically received.

On motion, that Mr. Hamill be elected by acclamation as Secretary as well as State Centre of the Brotherhood of this State, which was carried with much applause.

On motion, that Myles D. Sweeny, Esq., be declared the unanimous choice of this Convention for Treasurer for the ensuing year, he was unanimously elected amidst the enthusiastic cheers of the Convention.

Election of State Central Council was declared in order, and the following named gentlemen were elected as Councilmen for the ensuing year:

STATE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

MARTIN TARPEY, San Francisco.

M. E. HUGHES.

Hon. Frank Mahon.

TIMOTHY LYNCH.

A. J. DUNLEAVEY,

Jas. McGuire, Sacramento.

P. KERRIGAN, Smartsville.

P. W. DILLON, Benicia.

M. TARPEY, Watsonville.

C. Reilley, Grass Valley.

J. KAVENAUGH, Petaluma.

M. O'REILEY, Howland Flat.

W. P. Dougherty, San Jose.

On motion of Mr. Connelly that we endorse the Constitution of the Congress of Cleveland. Ohio. Carried.

Moved and seconded, that the State Central Council be empowered to make such amendments to the Constitution as may be necessary to the requirements of this State. Carried.

On motion, that a quorum of the State Central Council shall consist of four members. Carried.

On motion of D. Campbell, that a vote of thanks be returned to Mr. John Hamill, State Centre and Secretary, and also to Mr. Myles D. Sweeny, State Treasurer, and to the State C. C., for the able and honest manner in which they discharged their duties in the past. Carried unanimously.

On motion of T. J. Powers, that the salary of the State Secretary be increased to two hundred dollars per month, before the motion was put Mr. Hamill rose and protested against the increase of his salary, and most positively declined to accept the sum. On Mr. Hamill's request the motion was withdrawn.

The following motion was then put:

Resolved, That the salary of State Secretary be one hundred and fifty dollars per month.

Carried unanimously.

On motion, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to the gentlemen who, at the solicitation of our State Centre, consented to act as a Committee for procuring aid for the prisoners' families in Ireland, which duty they have performed with ability, fidelity and zeal.

WHEREAS, During the past year several of our brothers have fallen, either whilst gallantly fighting, as Crowley, or from wounds received in battle, as Lynch, and others have been done to death in dungeons by the fiendish malignity of our brutal enemies; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention place on record its appreciation of the fidelity to freedom and native land displayed by these, our countrymen, whether in the old or new world, and as the most fitting tribute to their memories we hereby pledge ourselves to put forth every energy of our natures to secure the triumph of the cause for which they died.

Whereas, During the past year it has pleased the Almighty to take from this world one of Ireland's most gifted sons, General Thomas Francis Meagher, and the gallant soldier, devoted patriot and illustrious orator has been removed from his sphere of usefulness and honor; and

WHEREAS. The last act of his life in connection with Irish national affairs was to place on record, through our State officers, his unfaltering fidelity to country and cause, and his sympathy with the efforts of the Fenian Brotherhood, and his earnest desire to aid those efforts by his influence and support; therefore

Resolved, That while we submit with humility and resignation to the will of the Almighty, we do most sincerely and deeply deplore the untimely end of one, whose unswerving devotion to principle, disinterested, lofty patriotism, and noble sacrifices, have earned the gratitude and veneration of his fellow countrymen, and of all who love civil and religious liberty.

Resolved. That by his lamented death the sacred cause of Irish nationality, to which in early youth he consecrated all the energies of his character and the splendor of his transcendent genius, and of which through life he was ever the eloquent and valiant defender, has sustained an irreparable loss; and that the services rendered by him in that cause, of which he was at once the champion and the martyr, will remain as a permanent monument to his fame; and his memory shall be enshrined in the hearts of his grateful countrymen through all coming time.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the bereaved widow and family of the illustrious deceased, and tender them our most sincere and heartfelt condolence in this, their great affliction.

Resolved, That this preamble and these resolutions be published in the city papers, and that the Secretary is hereby requested also to transmit an engrossed copy to the widow and father of General Meagher.

Resolved, That the courage and daring displayed by the men in Manchester in effecting the rescue of Kelly and Dearsey, commands our admiration, but also excites our apprehensions for the fate of the brave men who effected it; and should they fall, we pledge our best efforts to avenge them.

Resolved, That the late disasters should warn our countrymen against embarking in any project in which they have not an opportunity to make reprisals for the inhuman practices of the enemy, and thereby baulk their too easily acquired triumphs.

Resolved, That the gallant-hearted and true men of our race who are now suffering, in British dungeons, the penalty which England has too long successfully succeeded in inflicting on those of our race who have proved true to freedom and Ireland, merit the sympathy of all true Irishmen, and should stimulate them to renewed efforts to restore the captives to home, friends and freedom.

Resolved, That the families of such men as are incarcerated for their devotion to our cause, should be made the charge and care of the whole Irish race, and that proper efforts will be made by the Fenians of California in their behalf.

Resolved, That the members of this Convention tender their thanks to the officers and members of the McMahon Grenadier Guard for the free use of this Armory in which to hold this Convention.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due to the California Steam Navigation Co., to the Sacramento Valley R. R. Co., and to the San Francisco and San Jose R. R. Co., for passing our delegates to their respective homes free of charge.

On motion, adjourned sine die, subject to the call of the State Centre.

REPORT OF STATE CENTRE.

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San Francisco, November 13, 1867.

To the Representatives of the Fenian Brotherhood of the State of California, in Convention assembled:

GENTLEMEN AND BROTHERS:

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In consonance with the requirements of our organization, your State officers come before you to surrender into your hands the trusts and power with which, as representatives of the people, you invested them. Recognizing our full accountability to you and our associated brothers, whose representatives you are, we invite a close investigation of the manner in which we have discharged the trusts committed to our keeping.

It becomes my more especial duty to give you a résumé of our acts done in the interests of the organization, that you may weigh them carefully and determine correctly how far those acts have been dictated by patriotism and an earnest desire to promote the best interests of the Brotherhood,

In the discharge of their duty, your State officers prepared to give vigor to the spirit of the organization by the excellent advocacy of our principles by the gallant and able Colonel Walsh. His lecturing tour was very satisfactory, and productive of good results in giving increased spirit to the movement in every place he visited. The loss of his services has been severely felt by your officers; but, though absent, he has not forgotten us, and among the correspondence herewith submitted to you will be found several of his letters, giving truthful statements of the progress and development of our organization elsewhere. When here he served the cause faithfully, and when absent he has been true to his promises and punctual in the transmission of intelligence to us, and I take this opportunity of acknowledging the obligations we are under to him.

It is a matter of regret that scarcely had your delegates reached their homes after coming to the decisions arrived at in your last Convention, when the fell spirit of discord manifested itself, and factionism assumed an organized form. Accusations alike against the delegates who composed that Convention and the officers of the organization were

made. Your officers did not notice those irrational accusations, as they felt convinced that their very absurdity would insure, as they have done, their own defeat.

Notwithstanding those efforts to injure the organization, your officers continued by every honorable means to endeavor to conciliate those separated from us; and when the news of the late disastrous rising in Ireland reached us, negotiations were initiated for the bringing about of union, which resulted, as your officers believed, in effecting that purpose; and both at a public meeting and by circular letter addressed to the Circles, I announced what I believed to be the fact. Members of the State Council. however, were not so easily impressed with a belief in the sincerity of the parties on the other side who had formed that alliance. It is more becoming that I should refer you to the minutes of the meetings of the State C. C. for a record of the proceedings in that connection.

Time, the great tester of truth, has demonstrated, alas! in ruined homes and desolated families, the fallacy of the opinions of our oppo-

nents. Be it yours, gentlemen, to avoid like errors.

Our relations with the President and Senate F. B., have resulted in giving to us increased respect for those gentlemen, and a more intense belief in their lofty, disinterested patriotism. Their promises do not outrun the bounds of reason, nor do they exhaust the credulity of men by holding forth impossible and bewildering prospects. I herewith submit to you copies of several of the more important letters received from them. From these letters you will see what is expected from you—expectations I hope you will at once realize.

The state of the organization in this State is not as vigorous as we could wish to have it; but when the obstacles to our progress are taken into consideration, it will be admitted that it is yet in a position to easily and speedily retrieve the past, and achieve greater results in future than any it has yet accomplished. In the midst of discouragements new Circles have been added to our Roll, and with properly directed efforts much more may be done in the way of organization and consequent increase of power.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

First.—It is indispensable to the well-being and efficiency of the State organization that you adopt a code of laws in subordination to the requirements of the General Constitution, and provide means for their prompt enforcement.

Second.—That you take such steps as will insure the speedy formation and organization of the Twenty-first Regiment I. R. A.

Third.—That you pronounce distinctly on the course of the organization in the United States, and state precisely its relations to religion and polities, and that you hold our organization solely devoted to the object for which it was founded—the liberation of Ireland.

12

Fourth.—That you devise means to at once comply with the fulfilment of the promises made in our name by Colonel Walsh.

Of the gentlemen you associated with me in the direction of your affairs, I cannot speak in terms of too great praise. All of them being business men, I have found them on every necessary occasion attentive to the calls of duty, and each of them has devoted much valuable time to the business of the organization. In surrendering into your hands the business of the department, as a proper close to my official acts, I tender to them my sincere and heartfelt thanks for the many acts of consideration, helpful aid and wise counsels received from them. I tender them my acknowledgments for the firmness with which they directed me aright, when, on some important occasions, I was somewhat disposed to yield to faction's clamor. Their re election is essentially necessary to the welfare of the organization.

In a special manner you are indebted to the unfaltering fidelity and pure patriotism of your venerable State Treasurer. Time does but seem to increase his devotion to freedom, race and native land.

The Congress assembled at Cleaveland has paid a merited compliment to a worthy and venerable patriot, and to California, by electing M. D. Sweeny to the Senate of the F. B.

Committing into your hands the entire affairs of the State organization, with the assured hope that your deliberations will conduce to the still further development of our organization, and render it more efficien for the purposes for which it was instituted, thus giving increased hope to our country, vindicating the ability of our race and sending fear into the heart of our accursed enemy.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN HAMILL,
S. C. F. B., Cal,

[Note.—The State Centre here read from the Journal of the State Central Council, the official report of the pledges made at the time above referred to by those separated from us.]

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ADDRESS

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TO THE

CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES

FROM THE

Fifth Regular State Convention, F. B., Cal.

Deeply impressed with the justice and sound policy of submitting to the world the principles which actuate us, as much to disarm the enveromed shafts of pretended friends, as to secure the good will and active co-operation of all liberty-loving and just men,—We, the Representatives of the Fenian Brotherhood of the State of California, in Convention assembled, now solemnly announce and declare—

Firstly, to our fellow citizens, the brave, patriotic and magnanimous American people, that so long as the cruel tyranny of England is enforced on the people of Ireland, so long will we continue to "conspire against and compass its overthrow." And that any power on earth, be it Christion or Pagan, that may have cause of quarrel with England, will find in us a firm friend and ally. And in this connection it is but just that we should lay before the tribunal of American public opinion, a few (and necessarily but a few) of the manifold grievous acts of inhuman tyranny which that wicked and tyrannica' government has inflicted on Ireland. Preliminary to these accusations, it is deemed proper to briefly revert to the history of this Republic, and to remind the reader of the "clemency of the mother country" in the War of Independence. England, at that time, with characteristic presumption, assumed the right to govern North America, and her gouty aristocracy to enslave the Colonies by aggrandizing themselves. The protracted war, waged with a ferocity unbecoming a civilized state of society. tells how earnest—how fearfully earnest-they were in their diabolical intent. Col. McKee, and his Lieut. Girty, of infamous memory, are in our day personated by Judges Keough and Morris. The fires of Wyoming are rekindled at Pentonville

and Mountjoy-the only difference being, that the former was mere humane and merciful, because more instantaneous, than the latter. Washington City, be it remembered, had her ideas of Republicanism illuminated by the "light" of British freedom. My Lord Packenham would have extended the "protection" of the Union Jack and the "ever glorious British Constitution" over the benighted people of New Orleans, but was frustrated in the "laudable design" by one who probably would have been a "loyal subject," had it not been for the laws which George the Second had occasion to imprecate as causing him the loss of such subjects. Later still in the history of America, we find the impress of British treachery on every page. When the sword and torch are banished across the Atlantic, the pen and press and forked tongues are invoked to maim and wound "Cousin Jonathan": Emancipation Societies are begotten with the fecundity of the rabbit. Slavery, human slavery, cannot, must not be cotemporaneous with the freedom of the Briton. Exeter Hall agents are salaried and pensioned to go abroad and preach deliverance to "benighted America." The public mind is tossed and swayed by these gifted incendiaries; and war, dire war, with its train of horrors, is precipitated on the United States-and lo! where is that brood of serpents gone to? Go look for them in the arsenals and dock yards of Britain, superintending the construction of Alabamas and Shenandoahs, or blockade runners for the 'descendants of our Cavaliers;" or else, search for them in the sanctums of the British press, pouring out their envenomed souls in gangrened allusions to the status, morale and personnel, of our armies, and holding out inducements to the brave and gallant southron to protract a war in which he had no prospect of success-and with the ulterior motive of "coming in at the death," and, perchance, to offer us a protectorate, a la Honduras. Thyse are specimens of John Bull's loving embraces to our people, whom he, to-day, both hates and fears. And mark our prediction: his spies will be sent, indeed already are in our midst-in the pulpit, on the rostrum, in the press-everywhere, telling you about "the ties of consanguinity, of language, of religion, of origin," etc., etc., which bind the two nations in such loving bonds of unity.

But lest designing demagogues should misrepresent our language and meaning, when speaking of England and her people, we now solemnly declare that we deeply sympathize with the ill-governed and impoverished people of England; that we recognize the fact to be that their enemies and oppressors are our enemies and oppressors; that it is the corrupt aristocracy of Ireland, as well as of England and Scotland and Wales, that we war against; that the tool of oppression is all the same to us, whether the material of its manufacture be Saxon or Celtic; that the "Bread Riots" throughout England, the distress so prevalent in the manufacturing districts—the squalid poverty, and the shocking immor-

ality to be met with in all her towns and cities—are living proofs that even the Englishman is beggared to feed a pampered aristocracy, to arm and equip an army to enforce "their" rights, and to lash the masses into subjection. The cunning policy of England is now, and always has been to array Celt against Saxon, Protestant against Catholic. etc., that the dissensions of the people might direct their attention from the wrongs inflicted on them, and weaken them in any attempt to redress them. "The glory of England," are the monuments built to "King William," Admiral Lord Nelson, Arthur, Duke of Wellington, etc.; and we ask Englishmen, in the name of common sense, what benefit did they ever derive from Trafalgar, the Nile, or Waterloo? other than an onerous burden of taxation, an addition to the "peerage," and the consequent pension to support the dignity of the title, out of taxation.

The "free Britain," as he is ironically called, is fast becoming tired of his "freedom." The hare, rabbit, pheasant, grouse and woodcock of the field, which God created for man's use and benefit; the trout of the brook, and the fish of the sea, are all forbidden fruit to the Englishman in his native country. He is free to labor and toil, without any of the benefits or comforts which honest and honorable labor and industry secure in other lands; free to join the army, to enforce the claims of the Royal East India Company, and ride down the budding aspirations for real freedom which periodically develops itself even beneath the shadow of royalty. To the people of England, then, who have the manliness and the God-like (because God-given) attributes of freedom, and desire to rend the chains that bind them, we offer the good right hand of friendship, of fellowship, and succor, and beg of them to understand that, because we are Fenians, we are not necessarily enemies to England's masses, but rather the reverse. Our enemies are those only who misgovern England as well as Ireland—the enemies of freedom and self-government—the plunderers who usurp to themselves the "legal and constitutional right" to own and possess all the lands of a country, as well as all the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. This class are our enemies—we care not whether they are English, Scotch, or Irish; and their enemies are our friends, irrespective of country. England for the English, as well as Ireland for the Irish, is the corner-stone of our faith.

Fully conscious of the magnitude of undertaking, in a paper of this kind, to do more than glance at the innumerable crimes and cruelties which have been perpetrated on Ireland, with the sanction of the Crown of England, we will pass in silence over the murdered bodies of our forefathers in the bloody epochs of Strongbow, of the "Virgin Queen," of Cromwell, of the confiscations of James I., and examine briefly if we have any provocation or justification for our present attitude towards the Government of Great Britain. To say that the corrupt Church Establishment, with all its appurtenances of filth, fraud and deceit, is ample

provocation, would be false and untenable, because even that monstrosity is, at worst, but a sickening, disgusting nuisance, which would hardly justify revolution.

It will be said by some that the accursed Union with England, and the loss of legislation to the people of Ireland, might be borne, under certain circumstances. But where is the servile slave who will tamely submit, when the Government proclaims that it is its policy and determination to banish and blot out of existence the entire Irish race, and give over their country to the stranger? It is within the recollection of us all when our own Government, moved to compassion by the wails of want wafted to these shores from across the Atlantic, sent her ships laden down to the gunwales with the products of our teeming soil, that the "redtapeism" of beneficent England stood as an impenetrable barrier between the bounty of America and the Irish people, perishing of British manufactured famine! A synonym for magnanimity is the Government of Britain!

But why accumulate more evidence to prove the justice of our cause. Already every impartial judge and juryman in all Christendom have admitted that we are right. And God willing, and with the aid of well stored magazines, we hope to enforce the judgment, and that at the very earliest opportunity. In the meantime, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and his bosom friend Talbot, can scour the rural districts of that unfortunate island, improvising Fenian Circles, and then transporting the members for treason-felony on their own testimony.

Can it be possible that the policy of our Government is reflected in the seeming indifference of our statesmen to the wrongs inflicted on her citizens, by a foreign and unfriendly power, for an expression of political opinions, which they held and pronounced on our own soil, and for which they are now suffering all the rigors of heartless prison discipline and vindictive persecution, within the Procrustean precincts of Mountjoy and Pentonville, and for which those prisons have become so notorious? Can it be possible that we have already forgotten and forgiven England's neutrality in our late war? How the nimble "Dear Hound" coursed round in the offing, watching with deep solicitude the engagement between the Kearsarge and the British-built, British-manned, and Britishgunned Alabama, and bear off to the neutral shores of England, Admiral Semmes? How bellicose our British Lion grew over the heaving-to of the Trent, and how philosophically she takes an insult when it cannot be helped. How she connived at, and almost encompassed the destruction of our merchant marine, well knowing that our loss would be her gain; and if she could effect the complete, or even partial, destruction of our commercial and manufacturing interests, her great and still growing rival would be at the mercy of perfidious Albon.

From the foregoing statement of facts, all candid men must be con

vinced that the interests of Ireland and of the United States are identical, and that the English Government is, and ever has been, the unrelenting foe of both countries. Hence, we confidently appeal to every friend of the Irish race, to fall into our ranks, and band together as one man, to visit with a just retribution that organized system of spoliation, miscalled the Government of England.

While urging you, fellow-countrymen, earnestly to co-operate with us in the urgently needed work of effective preparation, we disclaim any desire, on our own part, or on the part of our Organization, to commit you to participation in riotous proceedings or disorders, which would but increase the sufferings of unhappy Ireland. No, we desire to wage red, regenerative war:—and to enable us to do this, we invoke your aid in the work of wise, unceasing preparation, so that when the portentous cloud that now overhangs Europe bursts—bringing to us the long-sought opportunity—it may find us, like prudent as well as patriotic people, prepared to take advantage of it, and wrest the liberties of Ireland from her oppressors with an "armed hand, and guard them with the same," thus establishing freedom as enduring as our love of liberty and hatred of oppression.

In conclusion, fellow-citizens of America, we ask of you, in the name of our fallen brothers on the battle-fields of our country—in the name of the heroes of the Irish race, whose bones lie bleaching on every battle-field from Quebec to the Halls of the Montezumas,—in the name of suffering and oppressed humanity.—in the name of our Goddess of Liberty, whose arm is stretched Eastward, pointing to her own votaries, now clanking the chains of the tyrant in the dark cells and gloomy dungeons of a foreign land, and to the gory scaffolds of poor, suffering, wretched Ireland, whose every pulsation beats responsive to our own,—to give that gallant people your active sympathy in their struggle for that freedom and independence which the Fathers of this Republic wrung from the same enemy.

Signed on behalf of Committee,

M. TARPEY, Chairman.

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of the Fenian Brotherhood, Department of California, for the Term ending January 19th, inclusive, 1867.

Dr.	By R. J. Tobin's salary up to Convention \$ 100 Incidental expenses office		John Hamili, two months salary Wells, Fargo & Co's envelopes Expressage Benicia Badges Copperopolis Benicia Balance on hand 807 52 4.596 87	
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FENIAN BROTHERHOOD TO COL. WALSH'S LECTURES.

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To the President and Members of the State Central Council:

Gentlemen: -The above Statement is herewith submitted for your investigation, and for your approval, if found correct.

Correct }

MARTIN TARPEY, President C. C. F. B. PHILIP MARKEY, Secretary S. C. Council, A. WASON.
M. E. HUGHES.

Of the Fenian Brotherhood, Department of California, from January 20 to April 30, inclusive, 186

Of the Fenian Brotherhood, Department of California, from January 20 to April 30, inclusive, 1867.

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SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON COL. WALSH'S LECTURES.

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TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE STATE CENTRAL COUNCIL :-

Faithfully yours,

Gentlemen: - The above report is herewith submitted for your investigation, and for your approval, if found correct,

Examined and approved by

MARTIN TARPEY, Pres. S. C. C. F. B. PHILIP MARKEY, Sec. S. C. C. A. WASON, M. E. HUGHES, T. LYNCH.

JOHN HAMILL, State Centre and Sec. F. B.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Of the Fenian Brotherhood, Department of California, from May 1st to November 12th, inclusive, 1867

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^{*} The true coin balance on the above is \$1.062 72, as one hundred and forty dollars is represented by twenty muskets. See Report from July 1st to September, 1866.

IRISH RELIEF FUND.

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	\$74 00	\$2287 25	\$74 00 \$2287 25

Correct,

WM. FARRELL.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

San Francisco, November 14, 1867.

To the President and Delegates of the F. B., in Convention assembled:

Gentlemen:—Your Committee appointed to audit and investigate the financial affairs of the Brotherhood in the State of California, beg leave to state that the duties devolved upon them are now fulfilled, and they respectfully submit the following report:

Your Committee have carefully examined the books of the State Secretary, and compared the same with his written report, and they find that the said report coincides exactly and in every particular with the items and amounts set forth in said books, and also with the vouchers which were submitted to your Committee, and which they have scrupulously inspected and compared with the books of the Brotherhood and the Secretary's report. In fact, we find a general system of honesty and efficiency prevailing in all its departments.

Your Committee have thus had an opportunity of seeing and knowing the difficulties which are attendant upon the performance of the very responsible duties of your State Secretary and Treasurer, and the exactness, nevertheless, with which these duties have been discharged by these officers, convinces us of the necessity of retaining your said Secretary and Treasurer in office.

We have the honor to remain,
Respectfully and Fraternally yours.

WM. FARRELL, JOHN MAHONY, A. J. DUNLEAVEY.