CHAPTER XVIII

THE IMPENDING CRISIS UNDER BUCHANAN


The Seventh Democratic National Convention met at Cincinnati, June 2, 1856. Called to order by Robert McLane, chairman of the National Committee, it chose John E. Ward of Georgia president. The rules of the preceding convention were unanimously adopted, which included the two-thirds and unit rules. The practice, usually since followed, of adopting a platform before nominating candidates, was inaugurated at this convention at the insistence of the Mississippi delegation. The New York, Ohio and Kentucky delegations split over candidates and it was held that where a state had not issued instructions individual delegates could vote their preferences. Later this became a settled rule of the party.

The opinion seemed to prevail that the two-thirds rule had become fundamental party law, and it was praised by some, condemned by others. The National Intelligencer argued that it effectively blocked the nomination of the most distinguished members of the party. Its advocates held that it insured unity and harmony and real Democratic choice.

Contesting delegations of New York Hards and Softs appeared and both were admitted, each delegate with half a vote. The nominating speeches were confined to two hundred words or less, not by express rule, but tacitly according to custom.

Pierce, Buchanan and Douglas were the leading candidates with no prospects of a dark horse entry. Pierce and Douglas had ardent supporters from the South, but their recognized weakness in the North alarmed many who were more anxious for victory in November than success in the convention. Sober-

minded Southerners believed conservatism, moderation and diplomacy, all of which Buchanan was credited with, would be of more value to their section in the long run than aggressiveness and partiality. Buchanan's long and distinguished record had in it nothing objectionable to the South. And there were those 27 Pennsylvania electoral votes. There were heated objections all over the West, North and East to the courses pursued by Pierce and Douglas, while Buchanan in London had won general public favor here.

The first ballot was Buchanan 135, Pierce 122, Douglas 33; the Southern vote went for Buchanan 29, for Pierce 72, for Douglas 14, while the North gave Buchanan 106, Douglas 59, Pierce 19. Succeeding ballots saw Pierce's strength dwindling until his name was withdrawn. On the tenth ballot Buchanan reached a majority; on the sixteenth the vote stood Buchanan 168, Douglas 121, Cass 6. A statement from Douglas that Buchanan having received a majority ought to be nominated being read to the convention, on the next ballot Buchanan was unanimously nominated. John C. Breckinridge on the second ballot was unanimously chosen for the second place.

Political wisdom had guided the convention. Buchanan was well known all over the country and no American of any party dreaded the election of such a venerable high-type gentleman and statesman of the old school, with an honorable and useful, if not brilliant, record. Buchanan had much the same sort of strength Fillmore, already nominated by the American Party, had and was without Fillmore's weakness; that is he had no faction of his old party hating him, no accusations of political disloyalty against him, no party enemies in his own state. The nomination immediately became popular with all Democrats of every section. Breckinridge brought strength to the ticket especially in Kentucky. The Democrats had nominated men from Democratic, but doubtful states, one Northern, one Southern.

The American Party had held its convention at Philadelphia on Washington's birthday, twenty-seven states being represented by 227 delegates; Maine, South Carolina, Vermont and Georgia were unrepresented, though Georgia gave the nominee 43,000 votes in November. A motion to proceed to nominations having been carried 151 to 51, all the New England and Ohio delegates and some from Pennsylvania, Illinois and Iowa voted; Pierce 50, convention of their own nominated John C. Frémont, and ex-Governor Johnston of Pennsylvania.
THE IRELAND'S UNEMPLOYED BANCAN

The population in Ireland was estimated to be 1,291,113 in 1983, with a workforce of 609,000. In 1982, the unemployment rate was 5.6%. The economy has struggled with high unemployment rates and low growth rates. The government has implemented various policies to address unemployment, including job creation programs and tax reforms. However, the country continues to face challenges in achieving economic growth and job creation.

---

THE STORY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The Democratic Party is the oldest political party in the United States, having been founded in 1828. The party's founder, Andrew Jackson, was a prominent figure in American history and played a significant role in shaping the country's political landscape. The Democratic Party has been home to many of America's most influential leaders, including Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, and Bill Clinton. The party is known for its progressive policies and its commitment to social justice and civil rights.
THE IMPENDING CRISIS UNDER BUCHANAN

The story of the Democratic Party.

The impending crisis under Buchanan.

The election of a President was a matter of life and death in the South and every Southern politician knew it. The South had carried or declared seven of the most important states, with a smaller number of elections, that advantage the South meant to keep and to maintain it. Slave states must increase to maintain it.

A strong opposition in the North, led by a President of the United States, would certainly results in the South, and operations must be conducted as in 1886.

Another great operating factor was the declared aim of the Republicans in the North, to gain a majority of the electoral votes, and then to force the election of a President over the objections of the Southern states. The election of a President by the people of the United States, would certainly result in the South, and operations must be conducted as in 1886.

The election of a President by the people of the United States, would certainly result in the South, and operations must be conducted as in 1886.
CHAPTER XIX

DEMOCRACY: GREAT DEBATES