On January 28, 1861, at a mass meeting held at the Greenbrier County Courthouse, Samuel Price was elected delegate to the Richmond Convention.

CSO: SS.8.22


1. What was the purpose of the West Virginia Constitutional Convention?

2. Why did Samuel Price believe that the delegation at the Convention held an advantage over their predecessors?

3. Describe Price’s feelings about political parties.

4. What two objectives did Price feel needed to be accomplished at the Convention?

Think Critically: If you were presiding as President over a new state’s Constitutional Convention, what are (3) things you would want to be accomplished? What challenges do you think you would encounter in this role? What qualities do you believe you have that would assist in you in this role? Weaknesses? What do you think life was like in West Virginia during the early stages of statehood?
OPENING SPEECHES OF THE CONVENTION.

Speech of Hon. C. J. Fulkerson, Temporary Chairman of the Convention.

“Although my occupation of this position is but temporary and only temporary to the permanent organization of this body, I am not so impressed by the clearness of the issues before us as by the magnitude of the subject which has been thrown upon our attention. It is the burden of our duty to make this assembly the instrument of the people in shaping a new government. It is the unqualified duty of every man to call upon his neighbors to thelowest part of the state and to every man to the highest part of the state, to implore them to do their duty in shaping this government. It is the duty of every man to do his utmost to promote the prosperity of this state and the welfare of the people. It is the duty of every man to do his utmost to promote the welfare of this state and the people. It is the duty of every man to do his utmost to promote the welfare of this state and the people. It is the duty of every man to do his utmost to promote the welfare of this state and the people. It is the duty of every man to do his utmost to promote the welfare of this state and the people. It is the duty of every man to do his utmost to promote the welfare of this state and the people.

Gentlemen, the choice of this remarkable man, in the person of Mr. Fulkerson, as Temporary Chairman of this assembly, marks the beginning of a new era in the history of this state. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny.

Gentlemen, the choice of this remarkable man, in the person of Mr. Fulkerson, as Temporary Chairman of this assembly, marks the beginning of a new era in the history of this state. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny. It is an era of progress and enlightenment, in which the people are not only to be the rulers, but the rulers of their own destiny.