

they refused, and in all probability failed to take part in the question of slavery, or no slavery, which was submitted to the determination of the voters of the territory on the 21st of December. The territorial Legislature, which called the State Convention, was a legally organized body and represented the people of the territory, a fact which no one will pretend to deny. That the peace of the territory, and the peace and safety of the union, required such a convention in order that the agitation of the slavery question might be localized, is also a fact equally undeniable. An act of Congress could not have made it more equitable, or have given the people a better opportunity to vote for delegates. This, it seems to us, covers the ground of propriety.

That convention met and submitted the question, and the only question, which divided the territory, to the decision of the people.

Your committee are therefore of the opinion that the Le-compton convention ought to be sustained, and our Senators and Representatives in Congress should be requested to vote for the admission of Kansas as a State under the Constitution adopted by it, whatever has been the decision of the people as to the question of slavery. In the language of Mr. Buchanan, "the question can never be more clearly or distinctly presented to the people than it is at the present moment.—Should this opportunity be rejected, Kansas may be involved for years in domestic discord, and possibly in civil war, before she can again make up the issue now so fortunately tendered, and again reach the point she has already attained."

The leading object of the Kansas Nebraska act, was to remove the dangerous question of slavery, from the halls of Congress, in which it was at first an intruder, and to let the people determine it for themselves. In the plain and forcible lan-

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