

CHICAGO CONVENTION.

THOUSANDS OF DEMOCRATS PRESENT.

OWENS IN THE CHAIR.

HARMONY AND ENTHUSIASM PREVAIL.

The Commodious Wigwam Packed to Its Full Capacity. Frightened by Thunder—Chairman Brice Calls the Gathering to Order—Temporary Officers.

Chicago special. The National Democratic Convention was called to order at 12:45 Tuesday afternoon in the wigwam on the Lake Front by Chairman Brice of the National Committee.

Just after noon, before many of the delegates had arrived in the hall, a trem-



CHAIRMAN BRICE, Calling the Great Convention to Order.

endous thunderstorm burst over the city. The interior of the wigwam grew as dark as night, the canvas being let down over the upper windows. Thousands of people were already in the spectators' seats, and as the lightning flashes lit up the gloom of the hall and the building shook in a heavy wind they became frightened and howled for lights.

Chairman Brice enters, and a bright ray of sunshine entered the wigwam together and both were greeted with hearty cheers.

As Mr. Brice rose to request silence, he faced a magnificent scene. Twenty thousand people filled the immense building, gay with its fluttering bunting, the bright colors of ladies' dresses, and the bright badges of the delegates and their accompaniment of marching clubs. Before him sat the representative men of a great party, the men who lead its battles, rejoice in its victories and mourn its defeats. There they spread in front of him, veritably a sea of faces which for the moment was bewildering in its vastness.

Practiced speaker as he is, and used as he is to facing great meetings, Mr. Brice for a second or two showed that he is not insensible to the emotions of a supreme moment, and was visibly moved as he advanced to the front of the platform, after demanding silence, to present Rev. John Rouse, who offered prayer.

When prayer was concluded Chairman Brice said: "Gentlemen of the National Committee, the Chair presents to this convention as its temporary officers the gentlemen named in the list, which the secretary will read."



CHICAGO AND TAMMANY.

of Kentucky temporary Chairman; Secretary, S. P. Sheerin, of Indiana; assistant secretary, V. H. Doyle, Pennsylvania; H. Shepard, Virginia; C. T. Tilly, Missouri; L. A. Rowley, Michigan; H. E. Wilson, Mississippi; H. D. DeForest, New York; J. C. Swayne, Illinois; Principal Reading Clerk, Nicholas M. Bell, of Missouri; Sergeant-at-Arms, Richard J. Bright, of Indiana; official stenographer, Edward Dickinson, New York.

The list was adopted without opposition, and the Chair appointed Charles Jewett of Indiana, Thomas Wilson, of Minnesota, and Adlai E. Stevenson, of Illinois, to attend Mr. Owens to the speaker's chair. These gentlemen assembled in front of the platform and then proceeded down one of the side aisles to the place where they met the delegation led by Mr. Owens and walked up the aisle with the committee. When they appeared on the platform the convention applauded, and the applause was renewed when Chairman Brice announced that he had the "honor and pleasure" of presenting to the convention its temporary Chairman, Mr. Brice retired, leaving the space in front of the Chairman's desk to Mr. Owens.

After bowing to the applause with which he was greeted, Mr. Owens, in a good voice, addressed the convention.

Chairman Owens' Speech. GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION: Two great dangers menace the Democratic party. One is external, the other internal. The first is the organized opposition of organized capital, supported by the whole power of the government. The second is a tendency among Democrats to make issues among themselves. Two needs therefore stand before us indispensable to success. Unity and harmony. Of the one this chair and gavel stand represents-

tion handed in or announced the names chosen.

W. E. English, of Indiana, noticing a number of vacant seats in the galleries, offered a resolution to admit ex-soldiers of the late war to the unoccupied places. Mr. Collier, of Tennessee, said that there were 25,000 Democrats at the door and he moved that the doors be opened to them. There was great applause, but the whole question was shut off on a motion of Mr. Johnson, of Kentucky, to refer the matter to the committee on resolutions. Mr. Hillman, of Oregon, in the body of the hall, addressed the convention, closing by stating that he held in his hand a telegram giving the glad news that the Republicans of Portland, Oregon, had been defeated by a thousand majority. Great cheering greeted this announcement. Mr. Hall, of Kansas, moved that organized clubs be admitted to the vacant seats in the hall, but this resolution was also referred to the Resolutions Committee.

Mr. Cable, of Illinois, offered a resolution of sympathy with James G. Blaine, "that this convention tender its profound sympathy to that distinguished American, James G. Blaine, in the many afflictions that have befallen him." The reading of the name of Mr. Blaine was the signal for an outburst of greater enthusiasm than the convention

of honored Democrats of the past, Hendricks and Douglas and others back to the beginning of the party. As the crowds flooded into the hall, almost the first comment was that the New York delegation had been given back seats in Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Wyoming were in the front chairs. It was the result of the alphabet, however, not of any sinister political design. The States highest in alphabetical order commencing with Alabama were seated nearest the speaker to the extreme right, and the succeeding States on the roll ranged backward. At the head of the next aisle Iowa and Indiana were the fortunate ones, and the next in order alphabetically went to the rear. Missouri and Montana were the lucky ones in the middle aisle, while New York and Massachusetts fared the worst in this part of the building. First come, first served, was the order with the spectators, and soon after 11 o'clock the four, Missouri and Montana were crowded to overflowing.

A good story was told, not long ago, of a lad lost overboard while sailing in Boston harbor, who was saved by his own presence of mind in floating until rescue could reach him. But he was a very little boy, and when actually safe began to cry. "You were frightened, weren't you, dear?" asked a tender relative. "You were afraid of going down?" "No, indeed," returned he, scornfully, between his sobs, "but I was afraid the fishes would bite me!" A far more alarming choice of evils was that set before an observer of the late rebellion in Chili. The Condell, a Chilean man-of-war, was on the way to Iquique to give the rebels there a fright by "sinking something, if it were only a pontoon," and Maurice Hervey, correspondent of the Times, was on board. He says:

In the delay precluding attack I descended to the saloon, and profited by the occasion to jot down a few notes. A few minutes later one of her officers came down to fetch something. "Well, I'll be hanged!" he exclaimed. "Writing now! You'd better shove your papers into a bottle, well corked, if you are anxious to record the 'Last Moments of a Correspondent!'"

And ours was a dangerous venture, for as we approached the harbor we were threatened by chains, booms, submarine mines and torpedoes, to say nothing of the fort and possibly a war-ship.

With some difficulty I groped my way forward and ascended to the bridge, where the Captain and some officers were gathered. Every man was at his post, and a death-like silence pervaded the vessel as she approached the shipping.

"I wish they would hurry up," I whispered to Captain Cook, an English navigating officer. "This suspense doesn't agree with me at all." "Perhaps you'll wish it had lasted a little longer," growled he. "And look here! Whatever happens, don't you leave the ship. I mean, even if they sink us."

"Oh, well," I answered, "if it comes to sinking I shall clear out for those rocks over there. I'm a good swimmer."

"If you were Webb himself you'd never reach them. The water here is just alive with sharks." And hurriedly turning to the Captain he added, "Ahora, Senor!" (Now, sir!)

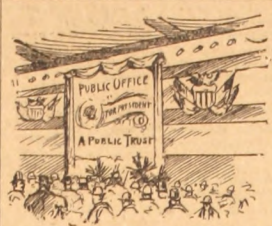
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Lynch Law Among Hats. In the neighborhood of Burley the other day, a gentleman, looking over a wall, saw a dead hen in the field. Presently a rat ran up, sniffed at the defunct fowl with much satisfaction, and went away in some haste. The onlooker, who is a student of natural history, knew what that meant, and removed the hen from the spot. In a minute or two the rat came back with half a dozen friends, with the evident intention of removing the carcass for future use. Arrived at the spot where the fowl had lain, the rat raised a loud squeak of astonishment at its absence. In a trice the other rats fell upon him so savagely that they left him dead on the field as a warning not to play practical jokes with his friends.—Leeds Post.

The Prettiest Royal Girl. The prettiest royal girl in Eastern Europe is said to be the Princess Helene of Montenegro, who, it is reported, is the chosen bride of the heir apparent to the Russian throne.

A Little, Brief Time. There are methods of measuring the one-millionth part of a second.

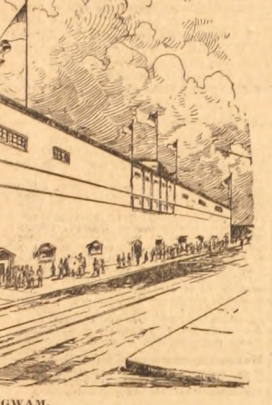
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CLEVELAND HEADQUARTERS, PALMER HOUSE.

had known before. The resolution was adopted without dissent. Mr. Swett of Maine got the floor and briefly thanked the convention on behalf of the Maine delegation.

An invitation from the World's Fair for the delegates to visit the grounds was read.



THE WIGWAM.

Gen. Bragg, of Wisconsin, moved that the convention adjourn until 11 o'clock Wednesday. Before the motion could be put the delegates were in the aisles. The Chair declared the convention adjourned, the band struck up, and Johnny Comes Marching Home, and the convention dispersed for the day.

IN THE CONVENTION HALL. How the Interior of the Big Wigwam Appeared Before the Session.

A circus tent trebly magnified, with a dozen huge white pendants stretching from covering to floor—that was the appearance to an Associated Press representative of the big Demo-



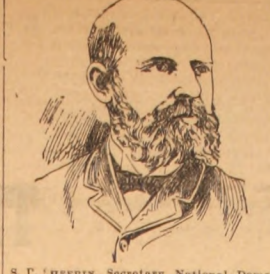
L. M. MARTIN, Iowa, a Bold Boomer.

cratic Wigwam when the National Democratic Convention assembled. The supposed pendants of shining canvas were in reality stout posts supporting what appeared to be a mammoth circular canopy floating in the sky, but in reality a substantial roof of wood raised some distance above the walls to admit light and air above from every direction.

Greater magnitude but naturally less appearance of permanency and beauty of finish distinguished the mammoth temporary structure from the Republican Convention Hall at Minneapolis. The vista of seats—a total exceeding 20,000—seemed to lengthen out right and left before and behind till the eye became bewildered.

Silken banners of blue, inscribed with the names of the States and distributed about the area of floor forming the center of the structure, showed where the voters were to congregate. Within a few hours at the most would name the winning candidate. All around were the rising tiers of seats containing the spectators, who, if they could not vote in the convention, were at least able to cheer to their heart's content. The Chairman's desk, the same over which Cleveland and Hendricks were nominated in 1854, was surmounted by two immense banquets of daisies and long, green ferns. Banks of fresh foliage were piled against the tables of the newspaper men each side of the speaker's stand, while high up in the space reserved for guests of honor were scores of nodding palms. The gallery, though encircling the entire hall, and probably the largest ever erected for a national convention, seemed to form part of the hundreds of tiers of seats and not a

distinct portion of the structure. The rail was hidden in countless small flags, and bore at intervals the shields of the various States and portraits of a score



S. T. HERBIN, Secretary National Democratic Committee.

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