FRAUD OF 1876-A GRACE-FUL RETIREMENT.

NEW YORK. June 18, 1880 } To Delegates from the State of New York to the Democratic National Convention:

behalf of the Democratic party of the resist their overthrow. United States.

ment for the people by the people, I learned to idolize the institutions of my country, and was educated to believe it the duty of a citizen of the Republic to take his fair allotment of care and trouble in public affairs. I fulfilled that duty to the best of my ability for feet was allowed to have a local to the vote of the State of New York or of the United States; but because I believe it is a renunciation for a brief period for a special purpose, and only when the occasion seemed to require of me that sacrifice of private preferences to public interests. My life has been substantially that of a private citizen.

It was, I presume, the success of my efforts, in which one private citizen had shared, to overthrow the corrupt combination then holding dominion in our metropolis, and to purify the judi-

I felt constrained to accept the nomnsefulness as a public servant. The breaking up of the local ring, the better management of our public works, large reduction of taxes and other referred and politics to which I would exchange HALL! istration, doubtless occasioned my nom-ination for the Presidency by the De-mocracy of the Union in the hope that similar processes would be applied to the Federal Government.

undertaking, appalling as they seemed to me, I did not feel at liberty to shrink. In the canvass which easned Your fellow-citizen, the Democratic party represented re form in the administration of the Federal Government, and the restoration of our complex political system to the pure ideal of its founders. Upon these issues the people of the United States, by a majority of more than a quarter of a million, chose a majority of the of a million, chose a majority of the clectors to cast their votes for the Democratic candidates for President and Vice-President.

say I was nominated and elected to the Presidency absolutely free from gressional District. It is my right and privilege here to any engagement in respect to the exnow matters of history, about which, whatever diversity of opinion may have existed in either of the great parties of the country at the time of their consummation, has since practically disappeared.

I refused to ransom from the Returdocumentary evidence by suppression of which, and by substitution of fraud-ulent and forged papers, a pretext was made for the perpetration of the false count. The constitutional duty of the two Houses of Congress to count the electoral votes as cast and give effect to the will of the people as expressed by their suffrages was never fulfilled. An Electoral Commission, for the existence of which I have no responsibility, was formed, and to it the two Houses of Congress abdicated their duty to make the count by a law enacting that the count of the Commission stand as flual, unless overruled by the concurrent action of the two Houses.

Its false count was not overruled. owing to the complicity of the Republican Senate with the Republican majority of the Commission controlled by its Republican majority of 8 to 7. The Electoral Commission counted out the men elected by the people and counted in the men not elected by the people. That subversion of the election created a new issue for the decision of the people of the United States transceding in importance all questions of adminis-tration. It involved the vital principle

of self government through elections by the people. The immense growth of the means of corrupt influence over the ballot box, which is at the disposal of the party having possession of the Executive Administration, had already become a present evil and great danger, tending to make elections irresponsible to public opinion, hampering the power of the people to change their rulers, and enabling men, holding the machinery

of the Government, to continue and perpetuate their power. It was my opinion in 1876 that the opposition, attempting to change the Administration, needed to include at least two-thirds of the voters at the SUMMER RESORT opening of the canvass in order to re-tain a majority at the election, after tain a majority at the election, after such obstacles had been overcome and a majority of the people had voted to change the administration of their Government. Men in office could still procure a false count founded on frauds parinty and foregries furnishing a very parinty and foregries furnishing a very procure at the country of the country o perjury and forgeries, furnishing a pre-text of documentary evidence on which to base that count, and if such a tran-saction were not only successful, but PHUR WATER. saction were not only successful, but if after allotments of its benefits were made to its contrivers, abettors, and apologizers by the chief beneficiary of transactions, it were condoned by the people a practical destruction of elec-tions by the people would have been accomplished. Failure to install the candidates chosen by the people-a contingent consequent on no act or omission of mine and beyond my con-trol-has thus left me for the last

shall choose a new leader, the involun-

the immunities of private life, without powers conferred by public station, subject to unceasing falsehoods and calumnies from partisans of any ad-ministration laboring in vain to jus-ELOQUENT REHEARSAL OF THE GREAT tify its existence, I have, nevertheless, steadfastly endeavored to preserve, to demonstrate to the Democratic party of the United States the supreme issue before the people for their decision next November, whether shall be a Government by sovereign people through elections, or a government by discarded servants holding over by force and frand; and I have withheld Your first assembling is an occasion no sacrifice and neglected no opportu-on which it is proper for me to state to nity to uphold, organize and consoli-

you my relation to the nomination for date against the enemies of represente Presidency which you and your astative institutions the great party sociates are commissioned to make in which alone under God can effectually Having now borne faithfully my full

Having passed my early years in an atmosphere filled with traditious of the war which secured our national independence and of the struggles which an honorable discharge. I wish to lay made our continental system a govern down the honors and toils of even

forty years as private cit zen, although of re-election to the Presidency. To during all my life giving at least as those who think my nomination and much thought and effort to public affairs as to all other objects. I have never accepted official service except to elect their rulers, violated in my

is above a merely personal ambition,

ciary, which had become its tool, that "Knowing as I do therefore from induced the Democracy of the State in fresh experience how great a dif-1874 to nominate me for Governor.— ference there is between gliding This was done in spite of the protests through an official routine and of the minority that the part I had borne in those reforms had created an tagonisms fatal to me as a candidate. federal administration without an anx ination as the most certain means of ions sense of the difficulties of the putting the power of the Gubernato-rial office on the side of reform and of suffrages of my countrymen to atremoving the impression wherever it tempt the work, I shall endeavor, prevailed, that the faithful discharge with God's help, to be an efficient of one's duty as a citizen is fatal to his instrument of their will."

forms accomplished during my admin- mained to me of health and life is now

the Democratic masses for the support From the responsibilities of such an which they have given to the cause I

SAMUEL J. TILDEN.

-WE reproduce testimony which goes to prove that the Republican MORRIS AARON candidate for the Presidency is a hard one. And we remind the people who intend to believe in the man, taken from the official proceedings of a meeting of his own party and his

-THE acquittal at Marshal, Texits patronage. Through the whole period of my relation to the Presidency I Porter, the actor, and shot Barrydid everything in my power to elevate more, was on the ground of insanity. and nothing to lower the moral stan-dards in the competition of parties. - Ziness which impels a man, who is ziness which impels a man, who is By what nefarious means a basis for a false count was laid in several of the States I need not recite. These are he is drunk, should be dealt with in some severer manner than that sup

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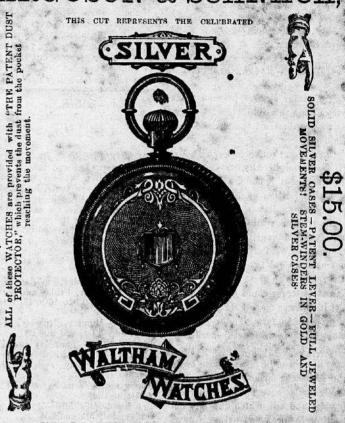
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