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The Sun.

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SILVER MEN DIVIDED.

Unable as Yet to Agree Upon a Programme.

CAUCUS PLAN ABANDONED.

Bitter Rivalries Between the Candidates for President.

This Morning the Silver Men Will Meet to Select a Man for Temporary Chairman Against Senator Hill, Who Will be Named by the National Committee—They Are Determined Not to Accept Hill Because They Fear the Effect of His Sound-money Speech—It Is the Field Now Against Bland, Who Leads All the Other Candidates—The Matthews Boom in Bad Shape—Teller's Republican Boomers Are Not Even Greeted with Common Respect.

CHICAGO, July 5.—This has been a busy but fruitless Sunday for the free silverites. They have it in their power to control the work of the Convention that will meet on Tuesday, but as yet they have been absolutely unable to bring their forces together into any sort of harmonious action. Very few members of the great silver army found time to go to church to-day, as all were too busy conferring and wrangling, and yet to-night they realize that they have their labor only for their pains. It has been a beautiful Sabbath day in Chicago. The thermometer has been below eighty all day, and the cool, bracing breeze from beautiful Lake Michigan has had the effect of putting everybody into a cheerful frame of mind, so that the conferences have been carried on in a better spirit than those of yesterday. The silver men are not happy in the possession of their great power, however, because they cannot use it to advantage. When the Convention meets on Tuesday they will undoubtedly have a majority, and possibly two-thirds of the delegates on their side. The bulk of this free-silver army to-day favor the nomination of Richard P. Bland of Missouri for President but the followers of Boies of Iowa, Matthews of Indiana, and other aspiring free-silver candidates are so persistent in their opposition to the nomination of Bland that his managers fear the formation of some combination that will undo him before the Convention meets. Bland is far ahead in the race, but this fact makes him the target of the combined opposition, and for that reason he stands in a dangerous position. It is the field against Bland now, and with a two-thirds vote necessary to nominate in the Convention, the chances seem to be in favor of the field. If Bland is not nominated on the first or second ballot a protracted contest is apt to follow, the result of which would probably be the selection of a dark horse. Neither Boies of Iowa nor Matthews of Indiana can well expect to be the heir to the Bland votes should he be forced to withdraw, because the fight between these three candidates is too bitter to be settled on the basis of a compromise.

SILVER MEN WITHOUT A PROGRAMME.

The silver men have no programme yet, and may not be able to arrange one upon which all factions can agree until after they have had a preliminary fight in the Convention. In a general way they know what they want to do, but the trouble is that they are not able to do it. Their forces are made up of such a conglomeration of elements, that will no more mix than oil and water, that it is difficult, if not impossible, to bring about concerted action. The first thing necessary for the free-silver men is to agree upon somebody as their candidate for the office of temporary Chairman of the Convention. At present they are as far from agreeing upon the name of the person to hold this office as if the Convention were not to meet for a month, instead of in thirty-six hours. Tomorrow it will be absolutely necessary for these warring silver men to get together, and while they loudly proclaim that they will have no difficulty in doing, so their looks belie their words. They will be brought to book to-morrow, when the National Committee meets and decides to present the name of Senator David B. Hill as the choice of the committee for the office of temporary Chairman of the Convention. Then the silver men will be compelled to select a candidate against him. They will not accept Hill, because they fear the effect of the sound-money speech that he would make the moment the presiding officer's gavel should be placed in his hand.

THE PLAN TO UNSEAT SENATOR HILL.

To-morrow morning, then, the silver delegations from the various States will meet again, and, if possible, select the name of one of their number as their choice for temporary Chairman.

In the afternoon, after Senator Hill's selection by the National Committee is announced, there will be a general silver conference, and from the names submitted by the various delegates a candidate for the temporary Chairmanship will be chosen. When the Convention meets on Tuesday Chairman Harrity of the National Committee will propose the name of Senator Hill, and then the silver men will bring forward the name of their substitute, a vote will be taken, and the substitute will undoubtedly be elected, and thus a direct fight will be avoided and the Convention will go ahead under the absolute control of the free-silver delegates. This is the programme, and the only apparent obstacle in the way of its being successfully carried out is the possibility that the free-silver men will be unable to agree on the question of the temporary Chairmanship. If they do not agree, however, they will lose control of the Convention from the start, and realizing this they are bending every effort to bring about some sort of a truce in advance of the meeting of their general conference to-morrow.

All hope of a free-silver caucus for the purpose of agreeing upon the free-silver candidate for the Presidential nomination seems now to be abandoned. The Bland men want the caucus, and want it badly, because they know that their candidate is far in the lead of all others, and because they feel confident they would be able to control the caucus in his interest. For the very same reason the anti-Bland men are opposed to a caucus, and there is now little prospect that one will be held. Instead, there will be a fight in the Convention between the gold men on one side, acting solidly together, and the discordant elements among the free silverites on the other side. Altgeld of Illinois is still the dictator of the free-silver crowd, and the formal announcement that Illinois will support Bland has added to the bitterness among the factions, and made Bland the prominent figure in the fight.

JOHN R. M'LEAN'S CANDIDACY.

The candidate who occupies the unique position in this contest is McLean of Ohio. He and his friends confidently look forward to a deadlock in the Convention, which will make it necessary to drop the candidate now in the lead and take up a "conservative" free-silver man. That man they think will be John R. McLean of Cincinnati and Washington, and his friends are bending every effort to keep themselves in a neutral attitude toward the gold men and the silver men, so that they can catch votes both "gwine and a comin'." Mr. McLean is a candidate, it is true, backed by a free-silver delegation from the Buckeye State, but, none the less, he believes that the three hundred and odd votes of the gold men in the Convention, cast practically as a unit, will be able to dictate the nomination, and he hopes to be the beneficiary of that big block of anti-silver votes. Mr. Berla Wilkins of Washington, who is regarded as the manager of the McLean campaign, said to a SUN correspondent to-day that it is idle to talk of Mr. McLean as a Vice-Presidential candidate, because he would not accept the office, no matter who might be named to head the ticket. He is a candidate for President, Mr. Wilkins said, and not for Vice-President, and does not wish and will not consent to be nominated for the latter office. The McLean forces are ostensibly working in the interest of Teller's nomination, but according to Mr. Wilkins's statements they are making a bona fide fight to secure McLean's nomination to the Presidency, and they profess to believe that he holds the best position in the race to-day.

THE SILVER FORCES LESS JOYFUL.

Three days ago, when the advance guards of the great silver forces reached Chicago, they were offensively arrogant in their pride of power, and pointed out what a simple and easy thing it would be for them to organize the Convention, adopt the platform, nominate the candidates, and adjourn without as much as to say "by your leave" to the anti-free-silver men, but to-day their joy is less exuberant. They are as confident as ever that they have the votes necessary to control every action of the Convention, and this cannot, in truth, be gainsaid. Nevertheless, these free-silver trumpeters are not so enthusiastic as they were, not so noisy, and not nearly so confident of an easy triumph. Their power comes to them handicapped by the weight of the Altgelds, the Tillmans, and the other Populistic elements of the free-silver army, and the less objectionable elements, headed by men like Jones of Arkansas and Daniel of Virginia, find themselves helpless in the grasp of the anarchistic factions of the free-silver party. Altgeld has given the Bland boom its greatest impetus by pledging it the support of the Illinois delegation, but the ringleaders of the free-silver men hesitate to accept power and victory at the heavy price of a coalition with the friends and sympathizers of Altgeld and Herr Most.

The conferences that have been carried on by the free-silver men have been accidental, hurried, disjointed meetings, at which nothing has been accomplished except to reveal more fully the lack of organization and the lack of purpose among those who are howling for a free-silver platform and a free-silver candidate. In the hotel corridors and on the streets, the silver men have stood about proclaiming their strength and listening with ill-concealed impatience to the arguments of the sound-money men, and the leaders of the various delegations have gone dashing about from one headquarters to another, engaged in the work of attempting to bring the factions together into a caucus or conference in advance of a meeting of the Convention, but all this work has been of no avail.

ALTGELD THE DICTATOR.

Down in the Sherman House, which is the headquarters of the free-silver party, the most conspicuous man, as he is elsewhere in all the gatherings of the advocates of free silver, stood John P. Altgeld, the Governor of Illinois, receiving visitors, who came in a constant procession to shake his hand and whisper words of encouragement for his ambition to dictate the work of the coming Democratic Convention. Altgeld is a hard-faced, bright-eyed, lynxlike man—shrewd, calculating, cunning, and implacable. He listened to what every man said who came to see him, and his replies were short and snappy. He has no magnetism and no apparent sympathy with those who pay him homage, but he has power and is not afraid to use it. It is claimed by members of the opposition element in the Democratic party of Illinois that Cook county would to-day vote 50,000 in favor of sound money if an opportunity was given, and that Altgeld is in power as a result of his ability to manipulate the primaries and choke down the sound-money sentiment.

By Altgeld's side to-day, as he received his free-silver callers, stood "Buck" Henrichsen, his first lieutenant, who has monopolized nearly all the political offices in the Democratic party of the State, and who desires to continue as the leader under the generalship of the Anarchist Governor. Henrichsen is a big, burly, good-looking, good-natured man whose geniality and good fellowship are a contrast and a set-off to the hardness of Altgeld's personality, and together they make a strong political team. They have jointly announced that Illinois is for Bland, and have repressed such opposition as there was among the delegates. These two bosses have set out to nominate Bland or make trouble in the Convention.

Across the hall from the Altgeld headquarters are the rooms of the Bimetallic National Committee, presided over by Senator Harris of Tennessee, who hopes to be the permanent Chairman of the Convention. But nothing was being done in the room of this important committee to-day. Its members began the work too early. They came on from Washington a week ago, and at once took control of affairs and started out to run the free-silver machine to suit themselves. They had not consulted Altgeld, however, and forgot to take him into their calculations. To-day, while the big free-silver procession moved in and out of the Illinois Governor's rooms, the antiquated old Senators sat in the room of the Bimetallic Committee, deserted and alone. The procession did not stop at their door, but passed them by unnoticed.

AT THE BOIES HEADQUARTERS.

Down at the Palmer House the rooms of the Iowa delegation were crowded with little free-silver Hawkeyes, but there were no leaders there, and the shuffling in and out of the crowds meant nothing, except that they were looking for "Uncle Hod" and whooping it up for him to the best of their abilities. But Hod was not there. He showed his affable face for a few hours yesterday, pumped a little enthusiasm into the hearts of his followers, and then went back to the Grundy county farm. There were a hundred speaking likenesses of Iowa's Granger candidate hung on the walls of the hotel to-day, however, and as a reflective visitor gazed upon them, he asked one of the Iowa men:

"Why is it that you always speak of 'the affidavit face' of Gov. Boies? What does it mean?"

"Why," replied the Hawkeye, "don't you see what a fine, open, unbewhiskered countenance Uncle Horace has? Don't you see that it is a face that has nothing to conceal, that it is an evidence in itself of the character and high purposes of the man to whom it belongs? Don't you see that that face is an affidavit in itself as to the character and democracy of our candidate? Don't you understand, then, what we mean when we say that Uncle Hod's face is as an affidavit and his voice as the psalms of David? That face and that voice represent his claims to the Presidential nomination, and they are bound to win."

Bland's pictures and Bland's name are everywhere, but Bland himself is down at Lebanon making hay, and his boomers now say that he will not come to Chicago. It is perhaps well that he does not come, because whatever qualifications he may have he does not possess an "affidavit face" nor a voice like the psalms of David or the psalms of anybody else. Bland is not pretty, and if he should come to town it would be seen at once that the lithographs that strew the city in the north, south, and west sides, and even on the lake front, are counterfeits. Bland's face is covered with straggly, bushy, untrimmed whiskers, and his voice is down in his stomach like that of a ventriloquist, and if he should be put in comparison with Boies in the matter of looks the Bland boom would undoubtedly suffer an early death.

INDIANA NOT SOLID FOR MATTHEWS.

Something has happened to the boom of Matthews of Indiana, but just what it is nobody seems to know. His headquarters have been open all day in the Palmer House, and enthusiastic Hoosiers are on hand, distributing with one hand cotton badges with a picture on them of the Indiana Governor, who has announced himself ready to endorse any sort of financial plank that the Convention may adopt, and with the other hand distributing lithographic sketches of the newly discovered Indiana statesman. But the leader of the Indiana delegation, the venerable and harsh-voiced Senator Turpie, is no longer shouting that Indiana is solid for Matthews, because there has been a split in the delegation, and a split at this stage of the game is fatal. Altgeld gave the first kick to the Matthews boom, then the Boies men kicked it, and now everybody gives it a whack as he passes by. For the first time in many years Indiana does not claim to be a powerful factor in a Democratic Convention, and her candidate is not now honored even with the prospect of a nomination for the second place on the ticket. Three days ago, when everything looked so bright for the Matthews boom, as seen through the glasses of his supporters, Senator Turpie announced in behalf of the delegation that Matthews was a candidate for first place or nothing. This is a favorite trick of candidates lately, but somehow the delegations took Matthews at his word, and it now looks very much as if he would get nothing.

TELLER BOOMERS GIVE UP THE FIGHT.

But, after all, the discouragement of the Boies men and the disgust and indignation of the Matthews supporters are nothing in comparison with the feelings of the Teller men. The sorriest group of politicians in Chicago to-day is the contingent of Republican free-silver United States Senators who walked out of the Republican Convention and who are now going about the streets of Chicago asking the free-silver Democrats to nominate their leader, the Republican Senator from Colorado. These men are not even being treated with common respect. They are consulted by nobody and their pleas for Teller's nomination are openly laughed at. Three days ago, before the leaders of the various delegations had arrived in Chicago, the Teller boom seemed to be making headway. Now it appears that this state of things was due almost entirely to the fact that the Democrats had not arrived in town. Having arrived, they have spurned the Teller proposition, and now leave the bolting Republican Senators unnoticed on the sidewalk. Some one has dubbed these free-silver Republican Senators "street walkers," and one of them confessed to-day that this is about all they amount to, after all. The plea of these Teller men is that if he should be nominated he would be endorsed at the Populist Convention, that meets in St. Louis on July 22, and that, as he would be able to carry the free-silver Democratic States, the free-silver Republican States, and the Populist States, he would defeat McKinley. The Democratic leaders admit that this might be so, but they say they have come to Chicago to nominate a Democratic candidate for the Presidency and not a Republican. The Teller missionaries have already given up their fight, and are getting ready to pack their gripsacks and go back to St. Louis to appeal to the Populist Convention to nominate their Republican candidate.

It is now almost definitely settled that the silver men will have but one plank in the platform, and that it will demand the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1, independent of international agreement. This is the idea of John R. McLean, and he is supported by Charles Henry Jones, the chief boomer for Bland. Such a plank, the silver men declare, will capture all the silver votes, Democrats and Republicans, and that it will also gain the support of the Populists, and thus avoid another candidate at St. Louis on July 22.

WON'T ENTER THE SILVER CAUCUS.

CHICAGO, July 6—1 A. M.—The friends of Boies, Matthews, Blackburn, and McLean have refused to-night to enter the silver caucus called for this afternoon.

The advocates of these silver candidates believe that they can do better on the outside, and that they would be foolish to be bound by the action of the caucus.

ALTGELD AND MOST.

Friends of the Governor Say He Never Met "The Dirty Fellow."

CHICAGO, July 5.—The Hon. John Pardon Altgeld threw nineteen fits in quick succession yesterday when he heard that Herr Jhann Most had given away the fact that he and the Governor were warm personal friends. The Governor would not trust himself to be interviewed on the subject by newspaper men. He locked himself up in his office. He let a friend do the talking for him. This is what the friend said:

"The Governor never met the dirty fellow in his life, and never even saw him for a moment. It is a notorious fact that none is more ready to recognize and admit the purity and uprightness of Mr. Altgeld's life than those who are opposed to him in politics. Think of him being found with the unspeakable Most drinking beer in a barroom. He is not that kind. He is not a barroom loafer. He is a high-minded, self-respecting gentleman."

The people of Chicago who read THE SUN's interview in the Chicago papers said that it was undoubtedly true that Altgeld was a warm personal friend of Most. The whole aim and purpose of the two men, they said, is the same, and why should they not be boon companions? Their ideas are the same, their methods are the same; of course they are friends. As a proof of what they say they point to the action of the Governor in pardoning the Haymarket murderers, and to his denunciation of the Federal Government two years ago when Federal troops were sent here to put down the Anarchists who had taken possession of the town.

JUDGE CLARKE'S BOOM.

North Carolina Wants the Vice-Presidential Nomination to Save the State.

CHICAGO, July 5.—Another boom has come to town. It is a Vice-Presidential boom, and is the first one for that office that is on the ground. It is the property of the Hon. Benjamin R. Lacy, Commissioner of Labor of North Carolina, and the candidate is Judge Walter Clarke of that State. Mr. Lacy found headquarters at the lunatic asylum, as the Sherman House has come to be known since it has been the headquarters of the free-silver men, and he launched the boom in the following language:

"Judge Walter Clarke would be the strongest man this Convention could name for Vice-President. He is known and liked, not only in North Carolina, but in the surrounding States. He is very close to the labor people, and would have their support. He is not a novice in the support of the free-coinage doctrine, but has been in favor of real bimetallism for years. No man in this country is better informed on the financial question than is Judge Clarke. He is about 55 years of age, learned, cultured and refined. He has made a study of financial and economic questions, and is the author of several standard works on those subjects. He is a man of strong personality, and all who know him are his friends. His nomination would save North Carolina to the Democratic party. We need his nomination to save our State ticket. We were defeated through Clevelandism, and we need some powerful influence to assist us in regaining control of the State. This help would come through Judge Clarke's nomination, and the North Carolina delegation will do its best to impress this fact on the Convention."

Great Luck.—Democratic Convention, Chicago. Take the picturesque Lehigh Valley R. R. Round trip tickets $7, July 4, 5, and 6, good to return July 12. Apply to 526, 278, 944, and 1,595 Broadway.—Adv.

DON DICKINSON REPORTS.

Paid His Reform Club Dues—Says the Club Is Badly Managed.

THE SUN published on Saturday a letter from Louis Windmüller of the Reform Club saying that the cause of Don M. Dickinson's resignation from the club on Feb. 17 was that he had been dunned for $10 annual dues—dunned "repeatedly," Mr. Windmüller said afterward. This telegram comes from Mr. Dickinson:

Chicago, July 5.—I note Windmüller in your issue of yesterday. I did not write a letter such as published by you some days since, but I did write a letter to the proper officer of the club in reply to his communication proposing to send literature and men to aid in our campaign for sound money in Michigan, in which I very civilly and politely suggested that I preferred to use our own methods and means, and suggested that their methods would harm the cause. A copy of that letter I can furnish from my letter book in Detroit. I had before written several letters in which, while I did not presume to criticise their methods, I suggested changes.

I was never "dunned" by the club and never failed to respond promptly with a check on receiving notice of dues. The letter which Mr. Windmüller says he destroyed contained a check for dues in prompt reply to the first notice I had that they were due. He did not destroy the check, if he did the letter.

Inasmuch as they attack me gratuitously, I will say now that I fully endorse everything THE SUN has said in criticism of the club's methods and Mr. Windmüller's management. They are generally condemned in the West. I may add that in my opinion these methods and W.'s management have helped incalculably the cause of unsound money and the sectional feeling against New York which I have consistently striven to allay.

The Reform Club may be made a power for good under proper management, but as it is conducted at present it is an evil. Prominent members of that club from New York now here fully agree with me in this.

DON M. DICKINSON.

CHICAGO, July 5.—The attention of the Hon. Don M. Dickinson of Michigan was called to-day to the letter written to THE SUN by Louis Windmüller, treasurer of the Reform Club. When Mr. Dickinson had read the letter he said with considerable emphasis:

"Windmüller is a liar. That's all there is to that, and you can't make it too strong."

"Why should Mr. Windmüller make such a statement?" the reporter asked. "Has there been any altercation between you?"

"I never had any communication with him," replied Mr. Dickinson. "He's a liar. That's the explanation; he's a liar and a plug."

GEN. BRAGG GIVES UP THE FIGHT.

He Says It's a Hopeless Task to Try and Stem the 16 to 1 Tide.

CHICAGO, July 5.—Gen. Edward S. Bragg of Wisconsin, who first said of Cleveland, "We love him for the enemies he has made," is one of the sound-money men here who has little hope that anything can be accomplished by arguments addressed to the free-silver delegates.

"I came here," he said to-day, "with the intention of being one of the sound-money men to visit the silverite delegations and talk to them on the money question. But what's the use? They are not open to argument. Just as Col. Fellows said in his speech last night, their answer to everything is '16 to 1.' That's their only argument. The silver people have been very shrewd in electing as delegates men who were never known in National Conventions before and who are here to turn a deaf ear to all arguments and take refuge in the shibboleth '16 to 1.'

"I remember a similar state of affairs in 1878. Then the cry was 'Per capita, per capita, per capita! Look at France's per capita! look at our per capita!' they shouted, and they would listen to no arguments whatever. I was one of the men who at that time thought that the price of silver, which was then 93 measured in gold, could be bought up and restored by the Bland-Allison act. But bless you, it kept going down so fast that nothing could stop it. I am reminded of the story of a man who was travelling across the Western plains and saw what he supposed was a monument. It was four sided, was built of brick, and towered up to a considerable height."

"'Who's that monument in honor of?' he asked of a native.

"'Do you think that's a monument?' was the reply. 'Well, 'taint; that's a well. It was dug by a man that used to live there, but the sand was blown all away from around it, and the man's house, too, was blown away and he had to move.'

"Now it was of as much use," continued Gen. Bragg, "to dig that well as for us to try to bolster up the price of silver. These people say we can restore the price of silver without the aid of any other nation, and so we could if we built a Chinese wall around the country and kept everybody and everything from going in or out. Why, here we are rushing out for the commerce of the world and we're asked to strike down the only medium of exchange in which that commerce can be carried on. But it's no use trying to impress that on one of these silver delegates. The only answer is bound to be '16 to 1.'"

TAMMANY TRAIN STARTS.

Braves Don't Like Chicago, and Will Hide Their Badges When They Buy Anything.

Less than two hundred men started for Chicago on the Tammany special train which left over the New York Central Railroad yesterday morning. The train, consisting of eight sleeping cars, a dining car, and a baggage car, left the Grand Central Station at 9:36 o'clock, just after the departure of the fast mail, and was to run on the time of the latter train to Buffalo, where it was to be divided into two sections, one being sent on after the fast mail over the Lake Shore and the other going over the Canada Southern and Michigan Central. Both sections are expected to make the trip to Chicago in twenty-six hours.

The braves began to assemble at the station as early as 8 o'clock. The early arrivals were sent by the leaders to look after the champagne and other stores designed for different district delegations, and see to it that it got into the right cars. There were thirty-five cases at the station for the Tammany train, and it was all properly stored.

It is not the purpose of the Tammany men to make much of a demonstration at Chicago. They were so badly treated in the Windy City four years ago that there was no great desire on the part of the braves to go there this year. In 1892 the displaying of a Tammany badge on the cost of a visitor was the signal for extortion to dispensers of drinks and to waiters. Those who left for the Convention yesterday said that they intend to keep their badges well out of sight when paying for things in the Convention town.

Many Tammany leaders are already in Chicago, and there was, in consequence, but a small sprinkling of the big men in the organization on the special train. Among those who did go were John C. Sheehan, Henry D. Purroy, Daniel F. McMahon, James P. Keating, Patrick Keenan, Thomas J. Dunn, Thomas F. Grady, B. F. Martin, George W. Plunkitt, William Sulzer, John T. Oakley, J. J. O'Brien, Robert Mub, and Jacob A. Wund.

Ex-Senator Plunkitt had charge of the excursion as far as Buffalo when Alderman John T. Oakley looked after the comfort of the passengers on the second section. The Tammany headquarters will be at the Auditorium Hotel.

"The Benedict" Perfect Collar Button. Benedict Bros., 171 Broadway.—Adv.

HILL IS THE LEADER.

He Will Accept the Temporary Chairmanship.

THREATS TO UNSEAT HIM.

But They Do Not Alter His Determination to Do His Duty.

Silver Senators Call Upon Him and Plead With Him to Refuse to Accept, as He Will Not Be Allowed to Preside Over the Convention—He Replies that If He Is Called to the Post by the National Committee He Will Certainly Respond to the Call—A Situation that Affects the Fate of Some of the Silver Candidates for the Presidential Nomination—The Silver Leaders Determined to Control the Temporary and Permanent Organizations, Adopt a Free-silver Platform, and Nominate Free-silver Candidates.

CHICAGO, July 5.—Every National Convention, Democratic or Republican, is bound to have a hero. Out of the thousands who attend these conventions and out of the hundreds of political leaders, one man usually turns up as the great man of the occasion and the man upon whom all eyes are directed. This always has been so, and undoubtedly it always will be so. Senator David Bennett Hill of New York is the hero of this Convention up to this hour, and there is every indication that, come what may, he will come out of the fight as the great political leader on this occasion. This is not merely the gossip of the day; it is the positive utterance of Democrats who are not the most friendly to Senator Hill, and it is the comment of free-silver Democrats who are opposed to him and who declare that they will remain in opposition to him until the end. If the Mugwumps of New York State, who for a dozen years have not ceased their attacks on Senator Hill, could be here to-day they would hear the highest compliments paid to him by some of the leaders of the old-time Mugwump element who in campaign after campaign did not scruple to use all sorts of methods and to resort to all sorts of language to bring low the political fortunes and the fame of Senator Hill.

MUGWUMP PRAISE FOR HILL.

It is all over the proposition of the Democratic National Committee to make Senator Hill temporary Chairman of the Convention. Senator Hill has been utterly indifferent whether the National Committee names him for the place or not, but the committee is determined that he shall be their representative, and Senator Hill has made no objection. The determination of the National Committee to put forward Senator Hill as their candidate for temporary Chairman is considered one of the best political strokes that any Democratic National Committee ever made. The wisdom of this selection and the shrewdness of it as a political move were demonstrated to-day, and called forth the remarks from the old Mugwump leaders that Senator Hill was certainly one of the greatest political leaders of his time. Even the Hon. Don M. Dickinson of Michigan issued a written statement to the effect that he had come to the conclusion that Mr. Hill was indeed one of the greatest political leaders that the sun ever shone upon. This high compliment from Mr. Dickinson was conveyed to Mr. Hill. He appeared dazed at first, and then he said:

"You don't really mean to say that Don Dickinson said that, do you?"

Senator Hill was convinced that Mr. Dickinson did actually say this, and the friends who were about Senator Hill at the time cannot for the life of them declare whether he appeared to be tired, disgusted, or elated. That will be something for the future to determine.

SILVER SENATORS PLEAD WITH SENATOR HILL.

The silver men do not favor Senator Hill for temporary Chairman of the Convention. The leaders have been compelled to harken to the words of their delegates. Most of these silver leaders are United States Senators whom Senator Hill has met in Washington daily during the last five years. Although opposed to Senator Hill in many ways they have learned to honor and respect him, and they are in the embarrassing position of being forced by the silver delegates to head a movement which in the end must bring about the overthrow of Senator Hill as temporary Chairman of the Convention. The silver Senators wish to obey the orders of their delegates, because they believe that their own political fortunes depend upon their subserviency and marked obedience to the will of the silver delegates. All day long Senator Hill's parlors in the Palmer House have been the great scene. All day long the silver Senators have begged and pleaded with Senator Hill not to allow the National Committee to present his name for temporary Chairman. Senator Hill has looked quizzically at them all and declared that if the National Committee presented his name he certainly would stand as their candidate. The silver Senators began their efforts to dissuade Senator Hill from taking the place immediately after breakfast time. The Hon. Roswell P. Flower went to church, and the Hon. Wm. C. Whitney came around from the Auditorium and witnessed the scene in Senator Hill's parlors. Then came ex-Gov. William E. Russell of Massachusetts to talk over the situation with Senator Hill.

HILL WILL STAND FOR TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Russell and some of his friends were afraid that Senator Hill might waver and that he might refuse to stand as temporary Chairman, in view of the almost certain fact that the silver men will unseat him if the National Committee names him for that office. Senator Hill looked at all of these people, and to one gentleman, who did not appear to know his courage and stamina, he said:

"Is it such a short time since 1894? Do you believe that I accepted the nomination for Governor at Saratoga in that year with any idea that I could win? No, no; I accepted that nomination with defeat staring me in the face, but I accepted that nomination because it was my duty to accept it and because the party in its prosperity had honored me and I could not refuse a nomination when the party was in peril and in trouble."

After ex-Gov. Russell and his friends heard this they left entirely satisfied that if the Democratic National Committee presents the name of Senator Hill for temporary Chairman he is not the Democrat to refuse the place, even though he is fully aware to-night that the tremendous free-silver machine will unseat him.

THE FREE-SILVER MISSIONARIES.

The first of the old friends of Senator Hill in the United States Senate who called upon him to urge the foolhardiness of his accepting the place of temporary Chairman from the National Committee was the Hon. Patrick Walsh of Georgia. Senator Hill merely told him that the place had not been offered him by the National Committee, but he had understood that the majority of the committeemen were to present his name. Senator Hill informed Mr. Walsh that if the committee selected him for temporary Chairman he would undoubtedly accept the call and obey the wishes of the National Committee. In their turns came Senator Cockrell of Missouri, Senator White of California, Senator Daniel of Virginia, Senator Turpie of Indiana, and later on came John R. McLean of Cincinnati. Their statements to Senator Hill were, in the majority of instances, of the same tone. They told him that the silver men had the majority in this Convention, and that they would surely unseat him. Senator Hill heard them all and repeated his answer that he had made to Mr. Walsh. Senator Hill's visitors did not question his Democracy. They said they believed that he was a typical Democrat, but that he was at fault on his money views, and that the silver delegates would not tolerate him for temporary Chairman. Most of his visitors were over solicitous for the fame of the Senator if he was unseated for temporary Chairman by a Democratic National Convention. Senator Hill laughingly told his visitors not to let such a little thing as that worry them, because he was quite convinced that the Democrats of this country would not be in accord with the silver men who at the behests of Populists and Socialists and Anarchists unseated the representative named by the Democratic National Committee. One of the silver Senators asked:

"Why are you so ready to do Mr. Whitney's bidding and accept this place as temporary Chairman?"

Senator Hill curtly informed this Senator that during all of his political life he had not done the bidding of any individual Democrat, but that he had tried to represent his constituents, and his constituents were in this case the sound-money Democrats. The sound-money Democrats who heard these utterances from Senator Hill applauded him, and told him that to be unseated by the delegates in this Convention would not in the slightest degree injure him with Democrats who believed in their party and in the party's dominant principles, and who had not been swerved by the free-silver craze.

SILVER DELEGATES AFRAID OF HILL'S SPEECH.

The free-silver Senators further told Senator Hill that the delegates were very much afraid of the speech that he would deliver if he is the temporary Chairman of the Convention. Senator Hill informed them that it made little or no difference whether he was temporary Chairman of the Convention, he should certainly deliver a speech for the gold Democrats in the Convention. It made little difference to him, he added, whether this speech was from the rostrum or from the floor of the Convention, the speech would be delivered just the same. Moreover, the speech would be delivered as representing the principles advocated by the minority of the Committee on Resolutions. It has been said all along in these despatches that the silver men are apprehensive of the speech that Senator Hill will deliver. As each hour goes by and the time for the Convention to assemble approaches their apprehension increases. It is not that they fear that Senator Hill by his utterances will swerve the great majority of the silver men, but they do not believe that he should have the opportunity to deliver the speech as an officer of the Convention. They fear its results during the ensuing campaign. They do not seem to mind so much the effects of the speech if Senator Hill delivers it either as a member of the Committee on Resolutions or as a delegate at large for New York State. They are determined that he shall not deliver this speech as temporary Chairman of the Convention and afterward have it held up to them by their adversaries as a political document during the campaign that is at hand.

A LEADER OF LEADERS.

When the old-time Mugwumps, like Walter Stanton of New York city and others, heard of these episodes, they came out and talked about Senator Hill's greatness as a political leader. Senator Hill to-day is no different than he was when these people were fighting him as Governor of the State and thumping him as United States Senator. His friends declare that he is the same Hill, the same Democrat, the same man who will do his utmost to represent his constituents, and who will not flinch before the certain fate of being unseated by a National Convention. One of the silver Senators said to Senator Hill:

"Senator, you have always stood in the middle of the road, with a two-edged sword, fighting for the Democratic party, and why should you now stand up as temporary Chairman of this Convention in an effort to override the wishes of the majority?"

Senator Hill demurred to this remark, and said that he had no intention of attempting to overthrow the wishes of the majority, but that he believed it to be his duty to accept any place assigned to him by the National Committee.

The solicitude of the silver Senators for Senator Hill's welfare was almost touching if it had not been thoroughly understood. They begged him again and again not to put them in the position of being compelled to unseat him as temporary Chairman. They declared that it would be the saddest task in their lives, that they didn't wish to go before the country with the charge that they had unseated a Democrat of Senator Hill's prominence. They thoroughly understood the embarrassing position which they occupied, and they besought Senator Hill over and over again to make their pathway easier and not to compel them to take such extreme action. Senator Hill, in reply to all of these urgent pleas, insisted that it made very little difference to him whether he was temporary Chairman of the Convention or not, but that the threat to unseat him wouldn't change his determination, that if selected by the National Committee he must accept the place. The silver Senators departed one by one and they seemed at a loss what steps to take. They were serious in their statements that they didn't wish to go before the Democrats of the country as having been engaged in an effort to unseat a Democrat like Senator Hill. They were aware that Senator Hill has thousands upon thousands of Democratic friends, and that such a step of unseating him would eventually recoil on the heads of those who participated in such a movement. They were, indeed, in a quandary.

MUGWUMPS THROW UP THEIR HATS.

Meantime the Mugwumps threw up their hats and said that Senator Hill was a great man. The Democrats who have known Senator Hill intimately said they were fully aware that the threats to unseat him would have no weight with him at all. These Democrats said that they had known Senator Hill from the first day he entered political life, and that he was not the Democrat to avoid an ugly situation, but, on the contrary, that he had been accustomed to hard knocks and the hoeing of hard rows in his party.

While other Democrats had lived in clover and had easily captured many of the great prizes in the gift of the party, Senator Hill, these Democrats said, had not attained to his eminence without a persistent fight and without meeting the opposition of alleged members of the party. Indeed, these Democrats added that many alleged Democrats had been the first to train their guns on Hill. So, with this knowledge of the man, these Democrats were not at all surprised when Senator Hill informed his visitors that he would obey the wishes of the majority of the Democratic National Committee.

BOUND TO UNSEAT HILL.

The silver Senators and their friends returned to the Sherman House greatly disturbed over the situation. They were at last face to face with the problem which had confronted them all the past week. But they declare that they have no recourse but to unseat Senator Hill, and that they must do this in order to obey the wishes of the delegates who form the majority in the Convention. Then they got to work and tried to select a temporary Chairman from among their number. This step disclosed their exact situation. They could not agree on anybody.

The majority seemed in favor of Senator White of California. It will be remembered that he was temporary Chairman of the Convention which renominated President Cleveland in 1888 at St. Louis, but as a matter of fact they did not agree upon Senator White, and it is the universal opinion that they will not be able to agree upon their candidate until after the meeting of the National Committee to-morrow, and until after they have talked over the situation.

THE SITUATION COMPLICATED.

The selection of their temporary Chairman will undoubtedly have an influence on some of the silver candidates for President. It cannot well be otherwise, and it may as well be said now that the solicitude of some of the silver Senators over the prospective fate of Senator Hill as an unseated candidate for temporary Chairman had very much to do with the Presidential booms of some of the silver candidates. If the silver men unseat Senator Hill the men who are interested in such an extreme step will be remembered by the New York delegation. The Presidential candidates of the silver men interested in the movement to unseat Senator Hill will not get a single vote from the seventy-two delegates from New York State. That is the situation in a few words. There is not a silver candidate here who has anything like the necessary two-thirds vote with which to nominate him. There is not a silver candidate for President here who is not dependent upon the votes of the 300 gold Democrats to bring about his nomination. The 300 gold Democrats are behind Senator Hill to a man. They will remember the men and the silver candidates who join in the movement to unseat Senator Hill as temporary Chairman of the Convention. There was not a single silver Senator who called on Senator Hill to-day who did not know this to be actually the fact and who is not apprehensive at the very thought of unseating Senator Hill, who stands as the representative of the gold Democrats. The only way by which the silver men and their candidates can get along without the votes of the 300 gold Democrats is for their Committee on Credentials to throw out the gold delegates from Nebraska and Michigan, and it was ascertained to-night that they will do this.

PROGRAMME OF THE SILVER MEN.

The gold Democrats say to-night that they are fully acquainted with the programme of the silver men. Senator Hill's friends believe that he surely will be unseated if he is named for temporary Chairman by the National Committee. The gold Democrats believe that Senator Harris is to be permanent Chairman of the Convention; that a sixteen to one free silver plank is to be adopted; that eventually the man selected by the silver men will be nominated for President, and that they will carry everything before them with a high hand. There have been some reports heard to the effect that the silver men will undoubtedly try to capture the National Committee, and thus be able to avert the determination to unseat Senator Hill. All day long the gold men have gone carefully over the list of the National Committee, and it is their positive opinion to-night that they have a small but substantial majority in the committee. Senator Daniel and other silver Senators have proclaimed that there are men on the National Committee who are misrepresenting their constituents by standing up for a gold Democrat to be temporary Chairman. This utterance by Senator I. gl and others brought out a good deal of ugly feeling. The gold men declare that the men Senator Daniel insists are now misrepresenting their constituents were elected by gold constituents four years ago, and that nobody knows this better than Senator Daniel and his friends. It is true that some of these committeemen will vote as gold men, although their States are now for free silver, but these gold committeemen claim that they are representing their constituents who elected them four years ago. It is believed that the silver men can captu.e the National Committee, and they must go on with their work and unseat Senator Hill.

SILVER MEN IN A MUDDLE OVER CANDIDATES.

The silver men are more muddled than ever over Presidential candidates. Ex-Gov. Flower after his devot