TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN OF THE CONVENTION ENUNCIATES DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES.

CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS SOUNDS THE DEMOCRATIC KEYNOTE.

Temporary Presiding Officer of the National Convention Repeatedly Cheered as He Attacks Republican Platform and Principles and Outlines the Purposes of His Party—Chairman Jones Calls Delegates to Order and the Reverend John F. Cannon Prays.

GREAT APPLAUSE FOR CLEVELAND.

Exactly at noon Chairman James K. Jones of the National Committee called the convention to order. His appearance on the platform and the sound of his gavel brought forth cheers from the floor and galleries.

Chairman Jones directed the sergeant-at-arms to secure order. He continued belaboring the table with his gavel, but it was some time before quiet reigned.

California's appearance with a huge silk banner and silk American flags and a yell, "California, California! Hearst, Hearst, Hearst," caused cheering.

Just as the California delegation reached its reservation after marching up and down the center aisle, William J. Bryan, who had come in unnoticed, arose in his place and was given a cheer. Then an enterprising member of the Montana delegation created a diversion by vigorously ringing a cow bell.

Again Chairman Jones demanded that the convention be in order, and at once directed the secretary to read the call for the convention.

The secretary then read the call, as follows:

Washington, D. C., Jan. 18, 1904.—The Democratic National Committee having met in the city of Washington on the 12th day of January, 1904, have appointed Wednesday, July 6, 1904, as the time, and chosen St. Louis, Mo., as the place for holding the Democratic National Convention. Each State is entitled to representation therein equal to double the number of its Senators and Representatives, and each Territory, Alaska, Indian Territory and the District of Columbia, shall have six delegates. All Democratic citizens of the United States who can unite with us in the effort for a pure and economical constitutional government are cordially invited to join in sending delegates to the convention.

JAMES K. JONES, Chairman.
C. A. Walsh, Secretary.

Applause followed the reading of the call. After quiet was restored, Chairman Jones announced that the convention would be opened by prayer by the Reverend John F. Cannon, pastor of the Grand Avenue Baptist Church of St. Louis. The prayer follows:

"Almighty God, our Father which art in heaven, in all our ways we would acknowledge thee in order that thou mayst direct our paths. We bow ourselves in thy presence and acknowledge thee as the God in whose hands our breath is and whose are all our ways. Lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us and bless us first of all in the forgiveness of all our sins. Turn our hearts from every evil way and incline us to the way of thy statutes. Humbly and gratefully we acknowledge thee as the source of all our blessings, the giver of every good and every perfect gift. We thank thee for thine unfailing goodness to us as a people. Thou hast dealt kindly and well with thy servants. Thou hast cast our lot in a pleasant land, and we have a goodly heritage. May we possess it in thy fear. May we have the blessedness of that people whose God is the Lord. Give us that righteousness which exalteth a nation and save us from sin, which is a reproach to any people. Let peace and plenty prevail within all our borders, and let righteousness and justice be our sure defense. Let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end. Cause strife and oppression to cease out of our land. Drive evil men from places of honor and power and let the righteous be exalted in their stead. God of our fathers, bless us as a people and make us a blessing to all the nations of the earth. O thou Master of assemblies, let thy blessing come upon this convention. Guide these representatives of the people by thy counsel. Replenish them with the wisdom which is from above, which is first pure, then peaceable, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Drive out of every breast all unworthy passions and prejudices and ambitions, and let all be controlled by holy passion for the right. And may such conclusions be reached and such action taken as shall be in harmony with thy will, for the glory of thy name and our country's good, we humbly ask, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

During the invocation the convention stood. Doctor Cannon's voice was entirely inadequate to reach even the center of the hall. The prayer occupied several minutes.

ENTHUSIASTIC GREETING OF TEMPORARY OFFICERS.

Enthusiastic cheering greeted the chairman's announcement that he was directed by the National Committee to appoint John S. Williams temporary chairman and C. A. Walsh temporary secretary and John I. Martin temporary sergeant-at-arms.

The chairman appointed Colonel John M. Guffey of Pennsylvania and M. F. Tarpey of California to escort Mr. Williams to the chair.

As the platform was inclosed by a railing, it was necessary for the committee and Mr. Williams to climb over the rail. The committee lifted Mr. Williams safely over, and the entire convention burst into cheers as he ascended the platform.

"I have the honor to introduce to you John S. Williams as temporary chairman," said Chairman Jones, and again the convention cheered.

Mr. Williams was attired in a light-gray suit and a white waistcoat. He delivered his address calmly and without gestures. Several cries of "Louder, louder!" interrupted Mr. Williams as he began, his clear but not powerful voice at first failing to reach all parts of the hall.

Mr. Williams spoke as follows:

"Ladies and Gentlemen—This is an appropriate place and an appropriate time for a great Democratic National Convention. The place is the most populous, and the wealthiest city of the most populous Commonwealth that was carved out of that magnificent territory which was acquired for the nation by the father of Democracy himself. (Applause.) The time is the centennial celebration of the anniversary of that acquisition. The centennial of the anniversary of genuine American, and not false and pseudo-extension. (Loud applause.) The celebration of the annexation to the Union of a vast area of unsettled land, or settled but sparsely by savages, whose independence we recognized by entering into a treaty and relations with them; or settled in spots by white men readily and willingly assimilated to the body of the American people, an area capable by soil and by climate of furnishing homes for the sons and daughters of the American people.

"Later on the Democratic party guided the nation to other steps in this line of genuine, true, free expansion, an expansion which was really one of the population and of the free institutions of the country. Florida came. In due course of time Texas was admitted, and not annexed, as the United States maps have it, and then, later on, as the result of Democratic policy, the vast area which came from the Mexican War furnished a far West still capable of home-making by the sons and daughters of the Republic.

MOST IMPORTANT EVENT IS ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT.

"My friends, the most important quadrennial event of this earth is the election by the American people of their chief executive. Prior to the great election there are two smaller party elections. One of those has been held. It was the most harmonious thing which the muses of history record. There are some conveniences about a convention of that sort. One of them is that the temporary chairman knows six months in advance or more that he is going to be temporary chairman, and he has not only an opportunity to make up his mind as to what he wants to say, but to find out what everybody else wants him to say—(laughter)—including the candidate of the party for the presidency, who perhaps revises both his speech and the platform of the party later on.

"My friends, the speech of the temporary chairman of the Republican Convention was in one respect historical; in this respect, at any rate, that there was a great deal of history in it—very much of it ancient history, a great deal of it false history. There was a labored argument by this able and ingenious lawyer to prove that by some process of evolution the party of Roosevelt was compelled to follow in the lines that had been marked out by the party of Lincoln. Thus was necessary in order to disguise the palpable fact that it is not so walking to-day. Not without reason, then, was this labored argument. It was to draw away the public attention from Rooseveltism, its earthquaking, volcanic, eruptive, wild and reckless ways and means. (Applause.)

"It was hoped that this could be done by dwelling upon the fact that the Republican party had been, once in its history, a party which did things and did them safely. This had this advantage, too: It would draw attention away from the fact that the G. O. P.—the great obstructive party—had ceased to be a party that did things, and was now a party of passivity, inactivity, blind obstruction, with but one sacred precept (applause), and that precept drawn from the gambler's table, and actuated by the motive of cowardice and fear to move—the precept of 'stand pat.' (Applause and laughter.)

SAYS ROOT KNEW HOW TO PAY A DEBT.

"My friends, I shall not pay undue attention to the utterances of the Republican temporary chairman. After interrogating a few of his utterances in the light of truth, I shall pass on to the authoritative utterance of the Republican party—its platform. But a few words first about my friend, or our friend, Mr. Root. His speech was principally notable for containing proof of the fact that the former Secretary of War knew how to pay a debt. The American people have not forgotten that not long ago the President of the United States was interviewed and paid a glowing tribute to his Cabinet, and that that interview closed substantially with the sentiment—and the greatest of these in Root. But let us read just what the President did say of the junior member of this mutual admiration society of 'Me, too, Teddy,' and 'Me, too, Elihu.' I find it in the American Review of Reviews, from the pen of Walter Wellman. Here it is:

"'Ordinarily the President of the United States is not to be interviewed, but there are exceptions to all rules. When I asked him about Mr. Root, the President replied: "I am very glad to do that. In John Hay I have a great Secretary of State." (Mark these 'I's.' Not the United States, but 'I.') "In Philander Knox I have a great Attorney General. In other Cabinet posts I have great men. Elihu Root can take any of those places and fill it as well as the man who is now there, and in addition he is what probably none of those other gentlemen could be, a great Secretary of War. Elihu Root is the ablest man I have known in our governmental service. I will go further. He is the greatest man that has a peer in the public life of any nation, in any position, on either side of the ocean, in my time." (Laughter).

"'This is praise, indeed,' adds Mr. Wellman. Well, what of it? Has anybody in this audience heard that the great former Secretary of War has denied any part of the soft impeachment? (Laughter.) Praise, indeed. Yes, and what praise in return could be adequate simply as repayment? Is it any wonder that this was the man selected by the Republican candidate himself for the purpose of laying it on strong? And is it any wonder that he laid it on strong?

SUSPECTED OF UNCONSCIOUS IDENTITY OF CEREBRATION.

"Indeed, my friends, these gentlemen, may we say so, think the same thought, at the same time and express it in the same language, that they have been more than suspected of unconscious identity of cerebration.

"For example, in October, 1902, Mr. Root made a speech in Cooper's Union, New York, and in the succeeding spring of 1903 the President made a speech on his tour through the West. I will read you a part of those two speeches, sentence by sentence, so as to illustrate this process of identity of cerebration upon the part of those two members of the admiration society. Mr. Root's speech:

"'If a tariff has on the whole worked well, and if business has prospered under it and is prospering, it is better to endure some slight inconveniences and inequalities for a time than to incur the uncertainty and disturbance of business which necessarily results from the process of making changes.'

"Now, listen to the first sentence of the President's speech:

"'If a tariff has worked well on the whole, and if business has prospered under it, and is prospering, it may be better to endure some inconveniences and inequalities for a time than, by making changes, to risk causing a disturbance and perhaps paralysis'—and then he thought it was not quite strong enough and he put in: 'perhaps paralysis to the industries and business of the country.'

"I will read you the next sentence in Mr. Root's speech:

"'The mere fact that a different rate of duty would be better than the rate fixed by the statute does not settle the question whether the change should be made now or should be deferred.'

QUOTES TWO SPEECHES THAT READ LIKE ONE.

"I will read you the next sentence in the President's speech: 'The fact that a change in a given rate of duty may be thought desirable does not settle the question, whether it is advisable to make the change immediately,' and so on through these two speeches. (Laughter and applause.) Verily, my friends, two souls with but a single thought; two speeches that read like one. (Cheering and laughter.) And that single thought so harmoniously expressed, if put into my plain Mississippi English would be this: 'That you must not force any special interest in the country to take its lips away from the public breast for fear that the public waking up may find the entire suckling process unnecessary and shake off the other special interests.'

"Now, my friends, when we view the peroration of the speech of former Secretary Root in the light of this identity of celebration, and in the light of being a demand for praise, it is necessary that that peroration should have been a rhapsody of praise. It was, after all, but a form of self-appreciation. If I may be permitted to make some bad Latin, I would say that it was a case of alter-egotism.

"Now, my friends, I want to call your attention to this. What a magnificent piece of humor is this unbounded adulation of our fellow-citizen in the White House, this deification of him who had dubbed the former Secretary of War as the greatest of men. What a magnificent piece of humor is it in view of the fact that the candidate of the Republican party, as a historian amongst a long line of eminent men who have filled the place which he now occupies, has, himself, been able to find unstinted praise for only three American Presidents, and that praise not so unstinted as that which he lavished upon former Secretary Root. Those three Presidents were: George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and himself. (Laughter and applause.)

SCORES REPUBLICANS FOR POST-OFFICE SCANDALS.

"The temporary chairman used this language—I will go on to his argument now—speaking of the Republican party: 'Through it more than any other party the moral sentiment of the American people finds expression.' If so, ladies and gentlemen, then God save us. Where will that moral expression be found? If we go back to the ancient history of the party will it be found in the Credit Mobilier? Will it be found in the Ames De Golyer-Colfax scandal? Will it be found in the whisky ring? Will it be found in the long saturnalia of Southern reconstruction, when vice walked naked through the lands? (Applause.)

"Coming to recent history, where will you find it? In the Post-Office Department? In the Public Lands Bureau? In the Indian Bureau? In the celebrated order of Hell-roaring Jake Smith, prescribing ten as the age above which children are to be killed in one of the Philippine Islands? (Applause.) In the pitiable telegrams lately emanating from Washington inquiring so anxiously when the patriotic and unassisted revolution of fifty or one hundred men in Panama was expected unexpectedly to break out? (Laughter.) Are you going to find it in the universal inoculation of our public life with the corruption of legislation-bought special interests?

"My friends, time fails me to ask where and what has ancient history to do with these present iniquities, anyhow?

"Mr. Root says, rather insinuatingly, that perhaps there had been something not altogether unrotten in Denmark: 'Offenders have been relentlessly prosecuted and sternly punished.' Isn't this a remarkable difference in the index when it is compared with the actual accomplishments of the Republican administration? Isn't it a remarkable difference in the index when you remember that a Republican Congress would not permit any investigation of culprits in the legislative branch of the Government, save alone by their colleagues in that branch of the Government? Isn't it a remarkable difference in the index when you remember that a Republican Speaker of a Republican House would not even give parliamentary recognition to anybody at any time to make any motion for an investigation of the executive department?

CONDEMNS REPUBLICAN STAND ON MONEY QUESTION.

"My friends, there follows a statement of the former Secretary of War which will perhaps be taken seriously. They boast that under the Republican administration, the insinuation being that it is due to a Republican administration, the per capita of circulation of money in the United States has gone up from 23 plus in March, 1897, to 31 plus in May last. Now, isn't this a curious thing, coming from a party which was but yesterday busy denying that there was any such thing as a quantitative theory of money?

"Busy! Occupied day and night denying that the volume of money had anything to do with the value of money; denying that the value of money had anything to do with an ascending scale of prices; denying that an ascending scales of prices had anything to do with national prosperity. And now, these same gentlemen in the Republican platform, as well as in this speech, tell us that the Republican party has brought about this great increase in the volume of the metallic money of the country, and that that increase has brought an ascending scale of prices, and that that ascending scale of prices has brought prosperity. My friends, is their present effrontery equaled anywhere!

"And, my friends, I presume that that is all true. So far as the increase of money is concerned it is. How can the Republican party hold itself out as responsible for it? In the last eight years there has been an addition of two billions of dollars to the gold money of the world, and the United States has added seven hundred millions to its stock of gold. Did Republican legislation bring it there? Was Republican legislation operative in the Klondike or in South Africa in discovering these mines? Was Republican legislation responsible for the human ingenuity which invented the new processes for easier extraction of gold from gold ore? Was it the Republican party which hoed and plowed and harvested the great crops of cotton and corn and wheat which enabled us to drag out of the world's reservoir of gold more than our share of it, making it $700,000,000 more than ever before?

SAYS REPUBLICANS CLAIM BENEFIT FOR EVERYTHING.

"The temporary chairman's speech, the platform, are both full of this old Republican scheme of claiming the benefit of everything that ever happened. But here are men insinuating an argument in contradiction to which they won a great election not long ago.

"Now, in the line of his boasting, the next step taken by the Secretary is this: He boasts that the Secretary of the Treasury does and can contract and expand the currency of the country at his own sweet will, and he cites transactions in 1902 to prove the assertion. If so, what a magnificent one-man power it is. Why, it is almost equal to the one-man power of the former Secretary of War, himself, who, while Secretary of War, was ex-officio Emperor of the Philippine Archipelago. Who, later on, in a public speech, he self said that he had been called upon to decide at a moment's notice and without the opportunity of conference with anybody, great questions affecting the life and the liberty and the prosperity of millions of men.

"What do the men who want the Government to go out of the banking business, what do the men who want the banks to go out of the government business, think of this one-man power, to expand and contract the currency of the country as one chooses?

"The former Secretary then tells us in a burst of eloquence that the fatal 15th of September, 1901, marked no change of policy; in other words, when the fraternal and kindly soul of McKinley wended its way to the great beyond it left behind it no break in the spirit of his policy, and yet there is not a schoolboy in America who knows anything who does not know that that statement is absolutely false. (Applause.)

"A change in the spirit of the policy of the Republican party with regard to reciprocal relations with the other nations of the earth and with regard to the great question of local self-government in the Southern States, and twenty other things that I will not stop to particularize, will suggest themselves to your minds right away. But to go on, from the Secretary to the authoritative voice of the Republican party in this platform:

"This platform, like the temporary chairman, deals chiefly in boasting that the Republican party has been the cause of everything good which has happened.

SAYS PLATFORM DEALS IN ANCIENT HISTORY.

"Like it, too, it deals somewhat in ancient history. It is well that the Republican platform did not go back fifty years. There will be needed a running start of at least fifty years to enable the American citizens' imagination to jump over, without noticing, the present position of obstructiveness in action, passivity and general lack of generalship and initiatory upon the part of the Republican party. (Applause). The Republican party's platform, in speaking of the Republican party's access to power after Mr. Cleveland's second administration had expired, uses this language. I shall ask your patience while I read it:

"It says, speaking of the Republican party: 'It then found the country, after four years of Democratic rule, in evil plight—oppressed with misfortunes and doubtful of the future. Public credit had been lowered, revenues were declining, the debt was growing, the administration's attitude toward Spain was feeble and mortifying. Its standard of values was threatened and uncertain. Labor was unemployed; business was sunk in the depression which succeeded the panic of 1893.' And so on down. Now, suppose that I paraphrase this utterance by this which I have typewritten:

"'When Mr. Cleveland succeeded to the presidency in March, 1893, after four years of Republican administration under Mr. Harrison, the Democratic party found the country, after a long period of public misrule and extravagance, in evil plight, oppressed by misfortune and doubtful of the future; public credit had been lowered and the revenues were declining; the outgoing administration was preparing to issue bonds; a governmental deficit was already confessed. The panic which devastated the world was relentlessly approaching our shores, last among the nations; a long saturnalia of extravagance, public and private, and of reckless speculation, had already followed the depression. Corn was burned for fuel in Kansas and elsewhere in the West, in 1889, and after.

"Cotton was at or below the price of production; the acute reaction which we call panic was inevitably approaching, even before Mr. Cleveland was elected. Business was sunk in the depression which preceded the panic of 1882.'

"Indeed, it was the business depression in factory and in field, and especially in the field out West, and down South, which, taken together with the high prices of manufactured articles under the McKinley bill, high prices accentuated in the public realization by contrasting them with the starvation prices of the agricultural products.

SPEAKER CONTINUES TO PARAPHRASE G.O.P. PLATFORM

"It was these two industrial reasons which led the people to hurl Mr. Harrison and the Republican party out of power and to put Mr. Cleveland and the Democratic party in power. That is the history of those days.

"Well do I remember those days. Well do I remember that aggrarianism, the state Socialism in the shape of Subtreasury and other schemes, was stalking abroad through the land. Well do I remember that the advocates of those schemes in that time, in the depressed South and in the oppressed West, in the suffering West, had ceased to count their audiences by numbers and were counting them by the acre. Well do I remember that everything was laid upon the two old parties, and, of course, most of it was laid upon that one which was in power. The consequence was that the one in power went out of power, and the one out of power came into power.

"Suppose I continue this paraphrasing of this Republican platform a little bit longer. 'Under Mr. Harrison's administration for three years hope was faint and confidence was gone. The plight of the people was so desperate that, like drowning men, they were catching at straws.'

"Now, it is true that the depression continued after Mr. Cleveland was elected. It is true that under Mr. Cleveland's administration it reached the acute of fright or panic state. That is, to say, it finally got from the field to the banks. I am now trying to walk the narrow plank of history.

"There was a world panic, which extended everywhere; from Vienna, nestled upon the banks of the Danube, to where Buenos Ayres lies on her bay; which had been all over the world. Its first acute symptom was the breaking of the Barring Bros. in 1890, but it finally came to us, and a number of nostrums in Congress and elsewhere were suggested by the national Secretary for curing a world panic. You will remember that the one which was suggested, and the one which was administered to the patient, was the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman act. We had men everywhere tell us that what was the matter and the cause of the panic was the lack of confidence in money, and too much silver.

REPUBLICANS ASCRIBED PANIC TO DEMOCRATIC TARIFF ACT.

"Chief among these wise men were the Republican leaders, and now these same Republican leaders come up to us to-day and tell us that the lack of confidence in many and too much silver did not cause the panic, but that it was caused by a tariff act which was not enacted for something like twelve months afterwards. They tell us it was brought about by a Democratic tariff act. Well, the patient received the nostrum, being a national nostrum, and of course the panic went right on, and after the panic was over the depression went right on, went on until when?

"There is nothing mysterious about all this. When there is a boiled extravagance and overspeculation and unbounding booming upon the body commercial, the flesh cannot even so much as begin to heal until the boil bursts. Panics are preceded by periods of depression; panics are followed by periods of depression, and it is when it has reached the acute or boil stage and has burst that the flesh begins to heal. So, when the panic was over the flesh of the body commercial began to heal. Then we were helped, so far as we were concerned, by many—for us, at least—fortuitous circumstances. First, there was the famine in India; no Indian wheat

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS SOUNDS KEYNOTE ON WHICH DEMOCRATS WILL WAGE CAMPAIGN.

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JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS OF MISSISSIPPI,
As Observed by Cartoonist Campbell.

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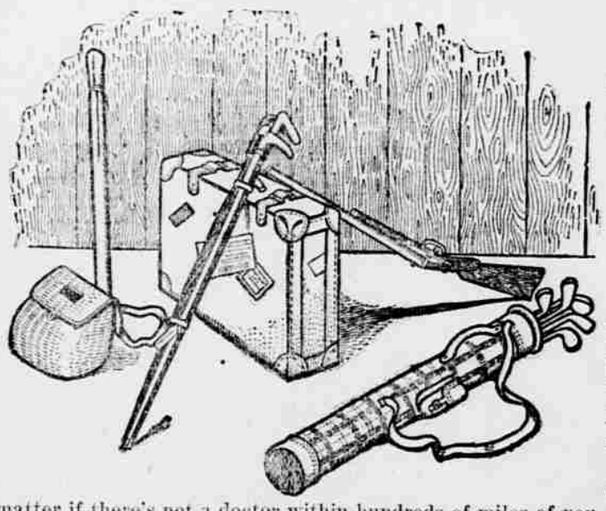

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