



THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

FROM THE "FRONT PORCH"

Of Canton's Modest Cottage to the Portals of the White House

STRODE THAT PURE PATRIOT AND AMERICAN CITIZEN,

William McKinley, Who Takes Up the Most Responsible Duties

THAT HAVE EVER DEVOLVED UPON ANY PRESIDENT.

The Industrial and Commercial Lines of Business Being in the Deepest Vales of Depression, His Administration Will Be Expected To Lift Labor and Business to the Aspiring Hills of Prosperity.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4.—It has been a day of national acclaim—a non-partisan demonstration of vast proportions, by which the American people without regard to section or political alliances have hailed a new President, and watched the launching of his administration upon unknown seas.

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The city was early astir. Its own population and the strangers within its gates moved in great files from all quarters toward Pennsylvania avenue to review the decorations.

The general acclaim reached the climax of its enthusiasm as Major McKinley advanced to deliver his inaugural, and these surging waves of sound gave way to still more impressive silence.

He looked upon a wonderful scene. The parade was a famous column, notably commanded. General Horace Porter, grand marshal, at his head, recalled all veterans the campaigns of Grant his chief.

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Meantime the procession from the senate continued. The senators well-dressed and imposing, followed by the more nondescript members of the house, sifted their seats.

All this time 40,000 people were straining to keep up the constant and tremendous applause while Mr. McKinley surveyed the crowd, occasionally looking aloft at the boys on the dome, he smiled and bowed.

Then Mr. McKinley arose and uncovered, while Chief Justice Fuller, in his flowing robes, administered the oath in the presence of that tremendous multitude.

It was an impressive yet beautifully simple ceremony that marked the accession of William McKinley, of Ohio, student, lawyer, representative, governor, but, best of all, one of the common people so dear to the American heart.

Private illuminations joined with others from end to end of the avenue. The immense public buildings seemed in flames. At various points high over them against the blackness of the sky, great flags, illuminated by searchlights waved clear and bright as if the spirits of the upper air were active participants in this national festival.

The fireworks and the street illuminations have not been equalled in the past, and the entertainment for the thousands who could not attend the ball was varied and ample.

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THERE ARE OTHERS,

And Governor Atkinson is Not the Least One of Them.

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONIES

At Charleston Totally Eclipsed Former State Functions.

THE CITY GREATLY CROWDED

With Visitors From All Parts of the Mountain Commonwealth

TO WITNESS THE INDUCTION

Of the First Republican Governor in a Quarter of a Century—The Retiring Executive's Graceful Utterances in Introducing His Successor—Senator Whitaker Was Governor for Half an Hour and Didn't Know It—Governor Atkinson's Inaugural Received With Great Enthusiasm and Approval—Elkins Cadets a Feature—Inaugural Ball a Brilliant Social Event.

From a Staff Correspondent.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., March 4.—For nearly a half hour to-day West Virginia had no governor, for it was a half hour after twelve o'clock, noon, before the oath was administered to the man elected by the people last November, and the consummation of their desire then expressed was witnessed by the great multitude of people assembled in and about the capitol

At 12:02, two minutes after Governor MacCorkle's term had expired, Rev. Dr. A. B. Riker, of the Methodist Episcopal church, offered an eloquent prayer, after which Governor MacCorkle stepped to the front and spoke as follows, being loudly cheered at the conclusion:

Retiring Governor's Graceful Speech.

My Fellow Countrymen—Four years ago when I assumed the high position of the governorship I promised you that I would give to the duties of this office my whole energies, and that I would do all in my power to uphold the state of West Virginia. Whether or not I have succeeded in carrying out my promise to the people is for you to judge. All I can say is that I have earnestly devoted four of the best years of my life to the service of the state.

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INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Of the President—A Clear Outline of the Administration's Policy.

Fellow Citizens—In obedience to the will of the people and in their presence by the authority vested in me by this oath, I assume the arduous and responsible duties of President of the United States, relying on the support of my countrymen and invoking the guidance of Almighty God. Our faith teaches that there is no safer reliance than upon the God of our fathers, who has so singularly favored the American people in every national trial.

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The March to the Capitol.

At 11:30 the Elkins Club, of Wheeling, headed by the bugle and drum corps of twenty men, marched from the local headquarters to the hotel and escorted the governor-elect and his staff, the members of the latter all being in full uniform and wearing the insignia of their rank, to the state house. Mr. Atkinson occupied an open carriage drawn by four bay horses. In the carriage with him were his three daughters, Misses Bessie, Florence and Nellie, and Secretary of State W. M. O. Dawson. Following were a half a dozen carriages containing the members of the staff in uniform, and several distinguished citizens. In the first were Adjutant General J. W. M. Appleton, Surgeon General Meyers and Colonel and Mrs. Morris Horkheimer.

Colonel Frank J. Hearne, Colonel Gould, Colonel Elkins and Colonel Hewitt occupied another carriage. The escort was led by Charles Henning, of Wheeling, who gracefully brode a handsome horse, which he afterwards declared was "dandy," because it allowed him to remain on its back until the capitol was reached. The escort marched down Capital street, both sides of which were densely packed with people, to the state house, where the Elkins Club opened order and saluted the distinguished occupants of the carriages as they were driven through the line to the entrance. The governor-to-be and staff were conducted to the reception room, where they were cordially greeted by Governor MacCorkle, who immediately announced that the hour of twelve o'clock having arrived, the party would proceed to the portico of the capitol for the inaugural ceremonies. The procession filed out, and the governor and his successor took their station in front, the staff officers of the new governor surrounding them and presenting a brilliant spectacle.

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Governor G. W. Atkinson.

grounds. Ideal weather contributed to the pleasure of the occasion on which, after more than a quarter of a century, the Republican party again assumed control of the government of West Virginia.

All last night, and during the morning, trains were arriving bearing large delegations from all portions of the state, and the capital city was filled almost to its capacity, the attendants embracing probably seven thousand strangers, which was not near so large as was expected a few days ago. But there was a reason for this. The floods which recently swept along the streams of West Virginia, and spared no section, almost devastated this entire region, and the people have not yet recovered from its effects; nevertheless they managed to handle the crowds as well as they did.

Elkins Cadets Arrive.

About 9 o'clock this morning the Elkins Club, of Wheeling, arrived, having been on the road all night, and their coming was an event. Owing to a misunderstanding regarding the time the special train would arrive, there was no representative of the local committee on hand to meet the club, at the Chesapeake & Ohio station, and that organization felt that it was getting a chilly reception in spite of the beautiful weather.

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