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WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT.

Capitol, which stood out white against the black sky of night. Pennsylvania avenue was festooned from end to end with incandescent lights. The rays of the searchlight lighted the bunting in which every home on the avenue was wrapped. Especially well decorated were the homes of foreign ministers and diplomats. The great colonnades of the Capitol were entwined with the stars and stripes. Such a gorgeous display of decorating, of electrical effects and fire-works has never been equalled on a similar occasion.

The Parade

The parade to the Capitol was the most brilliant pageant ever had at an inauguration. In the long line were regiments, battalions, political clubs, bands, battalions of cadets from West Point and midshipmen from Annapolis formed the guard of honor. The parade halted in front of the inaugural stand, and there the military organizations formed a great hollow square. While this pageant was in progress the whistles of the shipping in the Potomac voiced their shrill consent, and lower down the river could be heard the booming of the large guns of the battleship fleet just returning from its famous trip around the world.

Vice President Inaugurated

Following the precedent established on former inaugurations, the president-elect was escorted to the Capitol by the committee on arrangements composed of three senators and as many representatives. It is a strange coincidence that Senator Knox who is to be President Taft's Secretary of State was the chairman of this committee, and it was his last duty as a senator to serve in this important role. The escort with the new president entered the senate wing by the bronze door, and there witnessed the inauguration of James Schoolcraft Sherman as Vice President. Senator William Frye, of Maine, president pro tempore, of the senate, administered the oath of office. The Senate then adjourned. Senator Frye handed the gravel to Vice President Sherman, who immediately called upon Edward Everett Hale, the aged chaplain of the Senate, to offer prayer. The new Vice President followed with a brief inaugural address and read the president's proclamation for a special session. The oath was administered to the new Senators, and the Senate adjourned the witness the inauguration of the president.

About two dozen leather covered chairs were placed in the front of the large platform for President-elect Taft and his party. It was shortly after noon when Chief Justice Fuller advanced with the century old bible that Taft had selected upon which he was to take his oath. After the Chief Justice had repeated the oath, Taft said in tones audible to all upon the platform: "So help me God." He then began his address, which will be found on page 6.

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Theo. Roosevelt.

Dominion.

HUMANITY, groping in its slow way, has faltered in the slow centuries; but there has been no swerving in the earth's diurnal swing. Civilizations have set, but the sun has not failed to reappear in the east. It comes as a perpetual new promise. Likewise, there is a Light that lighteth every man, and the path to alter fire leads past no exclusive avenue. The first savage that kindled a fire beheld God in the burning bush. We try many religions and systems, it is true, and intone long litanies; then the divine Man comes and sums up all faith and philosophy in a phrase. It transpends the formula of the schoolmen. In such a message the thought of the Infinite becomes articulate. All men know it to be true. It requires no scholarship to feel the divinity in the Sermon on the Mount or in the speech at Gettysburg.

The disputant is silent in the presence of the ultimate reality. There is no need for an interpreter. There, at last we find, a moral law, and its authority is the signature of God. Beethoven set down notes that voice the beauty of the deathless melody, but his genius simply absorbed elemental harmonies. He did not invent the laws of harmony; they existed when the morning stars sang together for joy. Euclid and Kepler worked out problems (and so does every clerk) by the aid of tables as fixed as fate. The laws of the spirit are similar and permanent. They may be utilized, like multiplication and algebra.

Poe in a wonderful essay shows that provision is made for all contingencies that arise or ever shall arise in the unseen world. Now we know in part, but we know that all things tend toward unity. Draper saw it in the intellectual epic of the Old World. Tennyson interpreted it in song. Islam learned the truth and swept half the world like a contagion.

Yet there are heights to be won. The call of the spirit is away from our civilization to the Delectable Mountains. There is a Sinai in every soul. We are not a counterfeit creation. Man is made in the image, not the effigy, of God. He is ceasing, in the circles of the new philosophies, to demean himself as an immortal mendicant. Man is a creator, dowered with dominion. He can accept evil or he can choose the good. And in the exercise of that subtler wisdom he is already aflame with power.

Through the assertion of law, Ingersoll's dream of a world with health as the sole contagion is being realized. The potency in the consciousness that the spirit of man is divine volution is transfiguring the race.

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TAFT INAUGURATED

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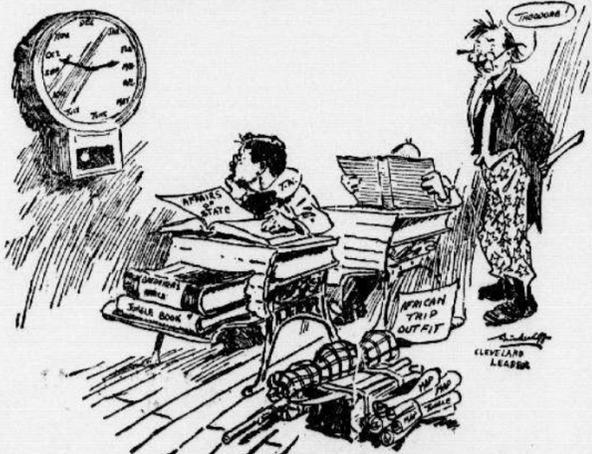
Yesterday soon after the hands of the big clock in the Capitol pointed to 12 A. M., William Howard Taft, of Ohio, became president of the United States. The inaugural ceremony was not long in duration, but it was the most brilliant and imposing spectacle ever witnessed while a chief magistrate was being installed in office. The inaugural stand seated over five thousand people. It was built in front of the central portico of the Capitol and was profusely decorated with flags and bunting. It was

estimated that two hundred and fifty thousand people witnessed the ceremony, while there were nearly two hundred thousand visitors in the city. By many the crowd was regarded as much the largest ever assembled in Washington.

Decorations.

The whole city was a blaze of color by day, and the electrical effects at night surpassed that of all previous inaugurations. A strong searchlight from the roof of the Pension Building flashed against the great dome of the

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