

OPPOSITION CONFERS

Anti-McKinley Leaders No. at St. Louis Put Their Heads Together.

Don't Expect to Name the Candidate, but Would Make the Platform.

Hobart of New Jersey the Favorite at Present for Second Place.

St. Louis, June 15.—The movements of the men who are opposed to McKinley have been very quiet, but it is understood that since the arrival of Mr. Quay there has been a conference of men representing the different candidates, those present being Platt for Morison, Quay for himself, Henderson for Mr. Allison and an Eastern man representing Mr. Reed. It was understood that the conference was not with any hope of defeating the nomination of McKinley, because Mr. Quay and Mr. Manley have already conceded the nomination of the Ohio man on the first ballot, but that it was proposed to prepare a platform on the money question which was to be insisted upon at all hazards and to give it to the McKinley men as one of the

Demands of the Opposition.

It was understood that the declaration was unequivocally for gold. In this connection it is said the declaration will be so pronounced that it will not be acceptable to the great middle West, which is here solid for McKinley, and may precipitate a fight. This is one of the many stories that were in circulation indicating the arrival of Mr. Platt and Mr. Quay had made the opposition more formidable than was supposed. As the McKinley men here are for the most part talking in favor of a strong declaration in favor of gold they say that there cannot be very much difficulty in adjusting a financial plank to suit the men who will vote for the other four.

HOBART IS FAVORITE.

The New Jersey Man Leads the Race for Second Place.

St. Louis, June 15.—There is some difficulty about the selection of a candidate for vice president, and it is by no means a settled question. Garret A. Hobart of New Jersey and H. Clay Evans of Tennessee are the most prominent candidates at present. There is a feeling that Mr. Evans would make a stronger run as candidate for governor of Tennessee than he would as vice president. Many people believe that Evans was elected governor of Tennessee and think that Democrats will vote for him who would not vote for him as a candidate for vice president.

The question of giving the second place to New York has been considered and Governor Morton, Benjamin F. Tracy and J. Slat Fassett have been mentioned. The general conclusion seems to be that the vice president must come from outside of New York and as the case now stands, Hobart appears to be in the most advantageous position.

EX-GOVERNOR MERRIAM.

The Minnesota Is Being Considered for Permanent Chairman.

St. Louis, June 15.—Ex-Governor Merriam has arrived and has taken an elegant suite of rooms at the St. Nicholas. Soon after registering he drove to the Southern hotel and went up to Mark Hanna's headquarters.

In the speculation as to the resolutions committee, Governor Merriam's name has been mentioned as the Minnesota member, and he is also being considered in connection with other gentlemen for permanent chairman. Senator John M.



EX-GOVERNOR MERRIAM

Thurston, who is believed to be booked for the position, stated positively that nothing was settled. He said: "Some weeks ago I was asked and consented to second the presentation of McKinley's name to the convention. I am here to do that, and until after I arrived in St. Louis had no idea that I would be a candidate for permanent chairman until the delegations began to come in and consider the question. I do not think there will be any definite selection in advance."

WILL FIGHT TO THE END.

Speaker Reed's Lieutenants Agree to Stand by Him at St. Louis.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—The friends of Speaker Reed in Washington say that notwithstanding Mr. Manley's statements they will continue in the fight to the last. All day and all night the speaker has been in telegraphic communication with his friends at St. Louis. He has asked them to go into the fight and they have responded that they will stick to him. The speaker's most intimate friends here are indignant at Mr. Manley, and say that besides its effect on the speaker's canvass it will demoralize the fight which is to be made for a straight gold platform under the leadership of Mr. Reed's lieutenant, Senator Lodge.

Mr. Lodge, they say, is to be on the committee on resolutions and is to make the fight on the money plank in the committee, and later, if necessary, on the floor of the convention. The speaker will remain here until Sunday, when he will leave for New York. He had no public comment to make on Mr. Manley's statement. His private secretary said:

"Mr. Reed could not believe it, and so stated when he was first informed of the existence of the statement. The expression of that belief speaks eloquently enough, it seems to me."

SILVER MEN WILL BOLT.

Cannot Support a Gold Standard Man on the Republican Ticket.

CINCINNATI, June 15.—Senator and Mrs. Teller are here en route from Washington to St. Louis. Senator Teller was interviewed by The Enquirer, the free silver organ, as follows:

"What do you think the Republicans will do at St. Louis, senator?"

"I think that McKinley will be the nominee on a gold standard platform."

"In that event, what will you do?"

"I don't wish to make any statement further than that which is already on record."

"Will any of the other silver senators from the West refuse to support a gold standard man?"

"Certainly."

"You have no idea that Senator Carter of Montana, chairman of the Republican national committee, will refuse to support the ticket under such circumstances?"

"Yes, he will and so will Dubois, Mantle and Cannon."

The inevitable conclusion drawn from the talk with Senator Teller is that he will bolt if a gold standard ticket and platform is named.

WILL SHOW THE STRENGTH.

Test Vote May Come on Contests in Convention.

St. Louis, June 15.—While the action of the national committee upon the various contested election cases is not final, it places upon the temporary roll of the convention the various delegations voted on by the committee. The usual rule is to have the contests settled for the permanent organization by the committee on credentials, which in turn reports the result of its deliberations to the convention. Owing to the length of time which has been taken up in consideration of the contests before the committee, it is possible a motion will be made to adopt the roll as made by the committee as the permanent roll of the convention. A vote on this proposition would declare the McKinley and anti-McKinley strength of the convention. If it is adopted it will be a great disappointment to the defeated contestants, many of whom are hoping for a reversal of the action of the committee in the convention.

CHANGE REPRESENTATION.

Committeeman Payne Will Press His Resolution on the Subject.

St. Louis, June 15.—National Committeeman Payne will press his resolution for a different representation in the national convention. He wants the national committee to recommend to the convention the following:

Resolved, That the national committee recommend to the convention that hereafter the basis of representation from the various states shall be fixed at four delegates at large and one additional delegate for each 7,000 votes or majority fraction thereof cast in each state for the republican electoral ticket at last preceding election, and that each territory and the District of Columbia be entitled to six delegates.

The scenes through which the national committee has passed during the few days it has been considering contests will probably influence them to favorably consider Mr. Payne's resolution.

Governor Hastings Is Coy.

PITTSBURG, June 15.—Governor Hastings was in the city en route to St. Louis where he is scheduled to present Senator Quay's name to the convention for the presidential nomination. The governor would not talk much concerning the convention and its doings.

When asked point blank if he was a candidate for second place on the ticket, he said: "I will have to answer that question in the words of the maiden in the poem, 'Nobody asked me, sir, she said.'"

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