THE COMET.

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THE PLATFORM.

Declaration of Principles Adopted by the Democratic National Convention.

The Democratic party of the Union, through its representatives in national convention assembled, recognizes that, as the nation grows older, new issues are born of time and progress and old issues perish. But the fundamental principles of the Democracy, approved by the united voice of the people, remain, and will ever remain, as the best and only security for the continuance of free government. The preservation of personal rights, the equality of all citizens before the law, the reserved rights of the States and the supremacy of the Federal Government within the limits of the Constitution will ever form the true basis of our liberties and can never be surrendered without destroying that balance of rights and powers which enables a continent to be developed in peace and social order to be maintained by means of local self-government. But it is indispensable for the practical operation and enforcement of these fundamental principles that the government should not always be controlled by one political power. Frequent change of administration is as necessary as constant recurrence to the popular will. Otherwise abuses grow and the government, instead of being carried on for the general welfare, becomes an instrumentality for imposing heavy burdens on the many who are governed for the benefit of the few who govern. Public servants thus become arbitrary rulers.

A CHANGE DEMANDED.

This is now the condition of the country, hence a change is demanded. The Republican party, so far as principle is concerned, is a reminiscence. In practice it is an organization for enriching those who control its machinery. The frauds and jobbery which have been brought to light in every department of the government are sufficient to have called for reform within the Republican party, yet those in authority, made reckless by the long possession of power, have succumbed to its corrupting influence and have placed in nomination a ticket against which the independent portion of the party are in open revolt.

Therefore a change is demanded. Such a change was alike necessary in 1876, but the will of the people was then defeated by a fraud which can never be forgotten nor condoned. Again in 1880 the change demanded by the people was defeated by the lavish use of money contributed by unscrupulous contractors and shameless jobbers who had bargained for unlawful profits or for high office.

REPUBLICAN FAILURES.

The Republican party, during its legal, its stolen and its bought tenures of power, has steadily decayed in moral character and political capacity. Its platform promises are now a list of its past failures. It demands the restoration of our navy; it has squandered hundreds of millions to create a navy that does not exist. It calls upon Congress to remove the burdens under which American shipping has been depressed; it imposed and has continued those burdens. It professes the policy of reserving the public lands for small holdings by actual settlers; it has given away the people's heritage till now a few railroads and non-resident aliens, individual and corporate, possess a larger area than that of all our farms between the two seas. It professes a preference for free institutions; it organized and tried to legalize a control of State elections by Federal troops. It professes a desire to elevate labor; it has subjected American workingmen to the competition of convict and imported contract labor. It professes gratitude to all who were disabled or died in the war leaving widows and orphans; it left to a Democratic House of Representatives the first effort to equalize both troubles and pensions. It proffers a pledge to correct the irregularities of our tariff; it created and has continued them. Its own Tariff Commission confessed the need of more than twenty per cent. reduction; its Congress gave a reduction of less than four per cent. It professes the protection of American manufactures; it has subjected them to an increasing flood of manufactured goods and a hopeless competition with manufacturing nations not one of which taxes raw materials. It professes to protect all American industries; it has impoverished many to subsidize a few. It professes the protection of American labor; it has depleted the returns of American agriculture, an industry followed by half of our people. It professes the equality of men before the law; attempting to fix the status of colored citizens, the acts of its Congress were overset by the decisions of its court. It "accepts anew the duty of leading in the work of progress and reform;" its sought civil scandals are permitted to escape through continued delays or actual connivance in the prosecution.

Honeycombed with corruption, outbreaking exposures no longer shock its moral sense. Its honest members, its independent journals, no longer maintain a successful contest for authority in its councils or a veto upon bad nominations.

That change is necessary is proved by an existing surplus of more than $100,000,000, which has yearly been collected from a suffering people. Unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation. We denounce the Republican party for having failed to relieve the people from crushing war taxes, which have paralyzed business, crippled industry and deprived labor of employment and of just reward.

REDUCING TAXATION.

The Democracy pledges itself to purify the administration from corruption, to restore economy, to revive respect for law and to reduce taxation to the lowest limit consistent with due regard to the preservation of the faith of the nation to its creditors and pensioners. Knowing full well, however, that legislation affecting the occupations of the people should be cautious and conservative in method, not in advance of public opinion, but responsive to its demands, the Democratic party is pledged to revise the tariff in a spirit of fairness to all interests. But in making reduction in taxes it is not proposed to injure any domestic industries, but rather to promote their healthy growth. From the foundation of this government taxes collected at the Custom House have been the chief source of Federal revenue; such they must continue to be. Moreover, many industries have come to rely upon legislation for successful continuance, so that any change of law must be at every step regardful of the labor and capital thus involved. The process of reform must be subject in the execution to this plain dictate of justice.

LABOR MUST BE PROTECTED.

All taxation shall be limited to the requirements of economical government. The necessary reduction in taxation can and must be effected without depriving American labor of the ability to compete successfully with foreign labor and without imposing lower rates of duty than will be ample to cover any increased cost of production which may exist in consequence of the higher rate of wages prevailing in this country. Sufficient revenue to pay all the expenses of the Federal Government economically administered, including pensions, interest and principal of the public debt, can be got under our present system of taxation from Custom House taxes on fewer imported articles, bearing heaviest on articles of luxury and bearing lightest on articles of necessity.

We therefore denounce the abuses of the existing tariff and subject to the preceding limitations we demand that Federal taxation shall be exclusively for public purposes and shall not exceed the needs of the government economically administered.

The system of direct taxation, known as the "internal revenue," is a war tax, and so long as the law continues the money derived therefrom should be sacredly devoted to the relief of the people from the remaining burdens of the war, and be made a fund to defray the expense of the care and comfort of worthy soldiers disabled in the line of duty in the wars of the Republic, and for the payment of such pensions as Congress may, from time to time, grant to such soldiers, a like fund for the sailors having been already provided; and any surplus should be paid into the Treasury.

A CONTINENTAL POLICY.

We favor an American continental policy based upon more intimate commercial and political relations with the fifteen sister Republics of North, Central and South America, but entangling alliances with none.

We believe in honest money, the gold and silver coinage of the Constitution and a circulating medium convertible into such money without loss.

Asserting the equality of all men before the law, we hold that it is the duty of the government, in its dealings with the people, to mete out equal and exact justice to all citizens, of whatever nativity, race, color or persuasion, religious or political.

We believe in a free ballot and a fair count and we recall to the memory of the people the noble struggle of the Democrats in the Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth Congresses, by which a reluctant Republican opposition was compelled to assent to legislation making everywhere illegal the presence of troops at the polls, as the conclusive proof that a Democratic administration will preserve liberty with order.

The selection of Federal officers for the Territories should be restricted to citizens previously resident therein.

We oppose sumptuary laws which vex the citizen and interfere with individual liberty; we favor honest civil service reforms and the compensation of all United States officers by fixed salaries; the separation of Church and State, and the diffusion of free education by common schools, so that every child in the land may be taught the rights and duties of citizenship.

While we favor all legislation which will tend to the equitable distribution of property, to the prevention of monopoly and to strict enforcement of individual rights against corporate abuses, we hold that the welfare of society depends upon a scrupulous regard for the rights of property as defined by law. We believe that labor is best rewarded where it is freest and most enlightened. It should therefore be fostered and cherished. We favor the repeal of all laws restricting the free action of labor, and the enactment of laws by which labor organizations may be incorporated, and of all such legislation as will tend to enlighten the people as to the true relation of capital and labor.

LAND GRANTS.

We believe that the public land ought as far as possible to be kept as homesteads for actual settlers; that all unearned lands heretofore improvidently granted to railroad corporations by the action of the Republican party should be restored to the public domain, and that no more grants of land shall be made to corporations or to be allowed to fall into the ownership of alien absentees.

We are opposed to all propositions which, upon any pretext, would convert the General Government into a machine for collecting taxes to be distributed among the States or the citizens thereof.

In reaffirming the declarations of the Democratic platform of 1856, that "the liberal principles embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence and sanctioned in the Constitution, which make ours the land of liberty and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation, have ever been cardinal principles in the Democratic faith," we nevertheless do not sanction the importation of foreign labor or the admission of servile races unfitted by habits, training, religion or kindred for absorption into the great body of our people or for the citizenship which our laws confer. American civilization demands that against the immigration or importation of Mongolians to these shores our gates be closed.

FOREIGN POLICY.

The Democratic party insists that it is the duty of the government to protect with equal fidelity and vigilance the rights of its citizens, native and naturalized, at home and abroad, and to the end that this protection may be assured United States papers of naturalization issued by courts of competent jurisdiction must be respected by the executive and legislative departments of our own government and by all foreign powers. It is an imperative duty of this government to efficiently protect all the rights of persons and property of every American citizen in foreign lands and demand and enforce full reparation for any invasion thereof. An American citizen is only responsible to his own government for any act done in his own country or under her flag, and can only be tried therefor on her own soil and according to her laws, and no power exists in this government to expatriate an American citizen to be tried in any foreign land for any such act.

This country has never had a well-defined and executed foreign policy save under Democratic administration. That policy has ever been in regard to foreign nations, so long as they do not act detrimental to the interests of the country or hurtful to our citizens, to let them alone; that as the result of this policy we recall the acquisition of Louisana, Florida, California and of the adjacent Mexican territory by purchase alone and contrast these grand acquisitions of Democratic statesmanship with the purchase of Alaska, the sole fruit of a Republican administration of nearly a quarter of a century.

The Federal Government should care for and improve the Mississippi river and other great waterways of the Republic so as to secure for the interior States easy and cheap transportation to tidewater.

AN AMERICAN POLICY DEMANDED.

Under a long period of Democratic rule and policy our merchant marine was fast overtaking and on the point of outstripping that of Great Britain. Under twenty years of Republican rule and policy our commerce has been left to British bottoms and almost has the American flag been swept off the high seas. Instead of the Republican party's British policy we demand for the people of the United States an American policy. Under Democratic rule and policy our merchants and sailors, flying the stars and stripes in every port, successfully searched out a market for the varied products of American industry; under a quarter of a century of Republican rule and policy, despite our manifest advantages over all other nations in high paid labor, favorable climates and teeming soils, despite freedom of trade among all these United States, despite their population by the foremost races of men and an annual immigration of the young, thrifty and adventurous of all nations, despite our freedom here from the inherited burdens of life and industry in old world monarchies, their costly war navies, their vast tax-consuming, non-producing standing armies, despite twenty years of peace, that Republican rule and policy have managed to surrender to Great Britain along with our commerce the control of the markets of the world.

Instead of the Republican party's British policy we demand, in behalf of the American Democracy, an American policy. Instead of the Republican party's discredited scheme and false pretense of friendship for American labor, expressed by imposing taxes, we demand, in behalf of the Democracy, freedom for American labor by reducing taxes to the end that these United States may compete with unhindered powers for the primacy among nations in all the arts of peace and fruits of liberty.

TILDEN.

With profound regret we have been apprised by the venerable statesman through whose person it was struck that blow at the vital principle of Republics—acquiescence to the will of the majority—that he cannot permit us again to place in his hands the leadership of the Democratic hosts for the reason that the achievement of reform in the administration of the Federal Government is an undertaking now too heavy for his age and failing strength. Rejoicing that his life has been prolonged until the general judgment of our fellow-countrymen is united in the wish that wrong were righted in his person, for the Democracy of the United States we offer to him in his withdrawal from public cares not only our respectful sympathy and esteem, but also that best homage of freemen—the pledge of our devotion to the principles and the cause now inseparable in the history of the Republic from the labors and the name of Samuel J. Tilden.

With this statement of the hopes, principles and purposes of the Democratic party, the great issue of reform and change in administration is submitted to the people in calm confidence that the popular voice will pronounce in favor of new men and new and more favorable conditions for the growth of industry, the extension of trade, the employment and due reward of labor and of capital and the general welfare of the whole country.

The Business Element for Cleveland.

The business element throughout the country is as a rule opposed to Blaine and in favor of Cleveland. The great organs of public opinion in the business metropolis of the country prove this to be the fact by their outspoken condemnation of the candidacy of the former and their vigorous support of that of the latter.

During his brief administration of the State Department of the Garfield Cabinet Mr. Blaine proved himself totally unfit to cope with the diplomacy of other nations. He came very near involving the United States in a war with Chili about the private business of a person who was not a citazen of the United States. He did his best to provoke hostilities with the friendly neighbor republic of Mexico by undertaking to meddle in the settlement of the boundary line between that country and Guatemala. He left the relations of the United States with a number of foreign States in so complicated a condition that his successor found it a very delicate and difficult task to disentangle them. It is therefore not a matter of wonder that the business men of the country regard him as an improper and unsafe candidate.

On the contrary the steady-going, level-headed, conservative, but vigorous administration of the government of the great State of New York by Gov. Cleveland commends him as a prudent, sagacious and reliable man, to whom the interests of the republic may be safely entrusted. It is the general belief that Blaine, if elected to the presidency, would repeat his meddlesome foreign policy for his own selfish purposes regardless of the real interests of the countrp, while Cleveland would uphold the dignity of the government and protect the rights of American citizens in foreign lands without attempting an interference in the affairs of other countries forbidden by the comity of nations.

Blaine is regarded as the representative of the desperate adventurers who seek to precipitate a war with a foreign power simply for the purpose of gratifying their own selfish or malignant purposes, while Cleveland is looked upon as a conservator of peace who would have the republic respected for its just and fair treatment of foreign nations and its dignity and fairness on all questions affecting its relations with these nations. Hence intelligent business men dread the election of Blaine, and hope and strive for the election of Cleveland. They will vote against a candidate whose election would unsettle business and most likely add many millions of dollars to the public debt of the United States. They will support a candidate whose whole public career is a testimony that he will not administer the affairs of government in rashness, or for the achievement of selfish purposes. They are naturally and logically against James G. Blaine and for Grover Cleveland.

A Reply to "Titus."

Eizabethton, July 19, 1884.

MESS. EDITORS:—I notice that a venerable Roman General, "Titus" by name, has been blowing off his bazzoo in the interest of one Shacknasty Harmon Agustus Cæser Pettibone in the colums of the Knoxville *Tribune* much to the disgruntlement of one Chrales Polly Toneray, of this ancient burg. As the *Tribune* has been going for Boss Houk on all occasions, we would advise it to call a regular meeting of the Central Blaine Club headed by "my son John" to take steps to call out at once the malitia at once for the protection of the said Houk against the fierce warriors led by this gallant Roman General.

What right has "Titus" to dictate to or direct Boss Houk? Is not Houk the Republican Boss of this State and is not this district a part of his sacred dominions? If not, why not? Your scribe is of the oppinion, however, that the most effective way to demolish "Taylorism" and "Houkism," in this district is for Harman Agustus, late of Chicago to discreetly distribute about half a dozen bull calves in this section. "Charles Polly" need not apply, as she has already received her share. We would suggest that brother Jeemes Petty Boyd be appointed from among "the faithful" to make the distribution.

If our mutual friend Harmon Agustus would devote more of his valuble time to the cause of the "Plumed Knight," "Uncle Billy," "Black Jack" and "Logan-Slogan" and less to temperance whilst "resting" at the Atkin House, and other little political movements that are calculated to "exhaust" him, it would be much better for the party. But no doubt "Heart's Releif" or "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" was necessary after his great labors at Chicago in benalf of the party.

"Titus" is, perhaps, right about the Taylor bolters. But no wonder there are bolters in the party in this district, when the Chairman of the Executive Committee the Hon. Blue-jeans, alias Dred Scott, alias Dalial Webster Reeves is the champion bolter in Boss Houk's dominions, having first bolted out of the Rebel army into the Federal, then from the Democratic party into the Republican and it is now charged he is a bolter from the late Congression Convention. It is said the latter bolt was made as he was a dark horse, as was also Warwick Pickwick Mounchausin Brownlow, the one acting as groom for the other. These two dark horses are very modest ones—the one believing strongly in the milennium and the other being a devoted follower of Eli Perkins and his namesake, Mounchausin. The ambition of both is easily satisfied if they can fill all the chairmanships in the United States not otherwise disposed of. Well I must return to "Titus" by telling him that this has been a disastrous campaign for dark horses in the 1st district. The fate of some of them that were hitched out in the bushes during the two Jonesboro Conventions is deeply and sadly deplored. For instance there was poor Aaron Joshua Falstaff Brown who was hitched to a bush the whole day and was not missed 'till after the departure of Peter Guinn, the latter having been taken for the said Aaron Joshua. When Peter left Aaron was missing and a search was made at once. The bush where this good old dray horse was hitched was found and a part of the bridle-rein was hanging there too, but no horse could be seen. Further search being made enabled his friends to find him in the "lone valley where the silent dwell." And there lay "this" steed with his nostrils all wide, "But through them there rolled not the breath of his pride." Some regretted the loss of this faithful animal who never refused a good office, and others said it was sad that he was gone though all admitted that his body would make good "fertilize." But missfortunes never come single—at the tail of his great calamity comes another dark horse to us from the 2d district, to wit, Waddy Peter Bachus Gillinwaters D. D. Harmon Agustus exhibited this animal as a black mare, from Knox, on College Hill, on the day of the convention, to the delight and edification of the vast audiance, his sex, however, precluding him from a nomination. Many other dark horses were present on this memorable occasion. The next two I shall mention showed remarkable endurance, skill and activity. The Red Fox was not exactly a dark horse, neither was he an animal "without pride of ancertry or hope of posterity" but he acted his part well, as the trick horse of both circuses. There was another poor, gaunt, sad looking horse that afterwards gave evidence of great vitality, having neighed long and loudly in both conventions but his voice was not for war. He played a sad and doleful tune on the harmonica. But when alone he played in low and solemn tones, "May the Lord increase their pain and enable me to make it on the home stretch." However, he shall lie "nameless here forever," unless I should tell your readers that he is a follower of Blackstone and is named after Sir Isaac "Newton." Strange to us as it may seem, Mr. Editor, there was a little cock sparrow, from Greene that had the audacity to call himself a dark horse. Though he was of "Milbourne" stock and game to the core, he could not save his tail feathers from being all pulled out in this motly assembly. Greene county had another dark horse that would roll his eyes like a dying calf and though slow and harmless it is said he has some bottom. He is what horse jockeys would term "a plug" but he has a fine pedigree, nevertheless, being one of the "Wilsonian" stock and hence, good as a fox-trotter. At this time there was hitched out in the mountains of Unicoi the oldest steed amongst them all who ever anon would prick up his ears and cast a wistful eye towards Jonesboro and his prayer was: "Oh! Lord if the lightning should strike in the Smith family, let it strike this old colt!" There was an old horse from Sullivan among this long list that would "Fain" make the convertion believe that he was neighing loudly for Taylor, and all believed it but himself. His Tail was short and his ears were long, he was badly galded and had a sore back, caused by being six years in the harness as Att'y Gen'l. He whispered to himself: "I would gladly change this harness for softer gears. And he thought, "as a matter of course," that the lightning would strike him if the Bull Frog hereinafter mentioned did not receive the shock. One hip-shotten old gray mare, from Grainger, to wit, As. Tate, was too weak and lame to attend the mournful procession. She is now said to be hid in a shuckpen, in the lower end of the district with a bean pole stuck in her browband still hoping that the judgement, as well as the lightning may yet—she notified the convention that perhaps Barkis would be willin', if pressed. Before closing we must pay our respects to Bull Frog Taylor, Esq, who has two fatal obstructions in his way to Congress. One is, he must go down to Jerico and there tary 'till his beard grows, and the other is, his coattail is so near the ground that it is feared the moisture of the Capital would be injurious if not fatal to his health. However, we learn he has recently bought a new suit of cloths, containing eighty seven yards of jeans, which was originally intended for Aaron Joshua Falstaff, but he having died and the coat being to large for him, the said Bull Frog is now wrapping his manly form in the said eighty-seven yards of jeans aforesaid, awaiting the resurrection morn, when the wicked shall cease to mourn and dark horses are at rest. Your friend.

"JOSEPHUS."

P. S.—If I have omitted to pay my regards to any other dark horse, please notify me, and I will attend to the matter

"The Capitol of a Buried State"

If the inanimate had lips and a voice, the now silent and desolate walls of many a dwelling in Greeneville, could, with touching tenderness echo, the lines of Tennyson, *O! fu:*

"The tender grace of a day that is dead—
That will never come back to me."

In many respects Greeneville, the once gay Capitol of the buried State of Franklin, is a deserted village. Progress, whose magic touch is building and adorning so many towns, weaving with soft fingers great networks of streets in the cities of the South, has not yet laid its hand upon this quiet mountain town. Like Rip Van Winkle, Greeneville is still sleeping in the shadow of the great blue Unaka unmindful of the onward march of its younger rivals.

But after all, this should not be regretted, says the dreamer. Nothing is more attractive and pleasing to weary, overworked, overtasked humanity than the quiet, the repose of this village, half-hidden in shade trees, its houses over grown with the ivy of a century. Its old fashioned houses roomy, and airy, the polished floors, bearing the imprints of the footsteps of a generation past and gone, recalling old fshioned hospitality, bringing to mind the old days when the darkies, happy and gay, sang old plantation melodies in the broad verandas. The era, when white men presided over National conventions; and voiced the destinies of the nation, and of the States. The influences of the new South has not yet been felt by Greeneville. Restless perhaps, at times she faintly stirs as in the distance, she hears the busy hum of new born industries springing up in the South-land, destined ere long, to erect a new and more splendid Empire, in place of the old, which perished in the rude shock of a terrible civil war: an Empire of wealth, where foundations are already been laid by the touch of enterprise and industries. From out of the North came the breath that withered the life of Greeneville and wrecked its fortunes, but to-day from the same source there comes a kindlier touch. The North-mans brawny arm, and inventive brain, will ere long aid in restoring the plains laid waste by "the shock of arms."

The men who made Greeneville, are dead. Their courtly manners, splendid hospitality their wealth and culture, however, have not been forgotten. Their deccendants remember them as the moors remember, the splendor of Boabdil and the court of the Alhambra as the Venetian remembers the days of the Dodges.

It was the Capitol of the State of Franklin. Here the war-like Sevier once held his court. Here was formulated the first constitution of that now almost forgotton State, and today Greeneville is the monument of a buried State, the only State with a written constitution which now has no place in the great sister-hood of States.

The building in which its convention was held no longer exists, and all that remains of it lives only in history.

W. W. LANGHORNE.

Newport, Tenn., July 11, 1884.

Quarantine Proclamation.

The following cholera quarantine proclamation has been issued by the President. "While quarantine regulations are committed to the several States the general government has reposed certain powers on the President to be used at his discretion in preventing a threatened epidemic. Feeling it my duty I hereby call on all persons who under the existing system in the several States are intrusted with the execution of quarantine regulations, to be diligent and on the alert, in order to prevent the introduction of the pestilence, which we all regret to learn has made its appearance in some of the countries of Europe, between which and the ports of the United States intercourse is direct and frequent. I further advise that cities and towns of the United States, whether on the coast or on the lines of intercommunication by sound sanitary regulations and promotion of cleanliness be prepared to resist the power of the disease and to mitigate its severity. I further direct the Consuls of the United States in parts where the pestilence has made or makes its appearance, to exercise vigilance in carrying out instructions heretofore given, and in communicating to the Government of the United States any information of value relating to the progress or treatment of the disease. Given under my hand and the seal of the United States at the City of Washington, this, 19th day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, ond of the indipendence of the United States, the one hundred and eighth. [Signed.]

CHESTER A. ARTHUR."

The Split In Virginia.

RICHMOND, July 18.—All is not serene in the Rebublican camp in Virginia. The two electoral tickets put up by Mahone and Straight-out wings are still in the field. General W. C. Wickham, a member of the State Senate and one of the most influential anti-Mahone Republicans in the State, to-day said he was opposed to any compromise with Mahone which does not contemplate the retirement of both electorial tickets and the selection of a brand-new one, to be selected by both wings of the party in this State. General Wickham looks upon the proposition to retire three or four of the men now on the Mahone electorial ticket and the substitution of as many Straight-outs as ridiculous. He does not believe that such a course would be any concession worth the name. At present the indications are that harmony will not be secured in the Rebublican ranks. Many prominent Straight-outs fully concur in the view taken of the matter by General Wickham.

Hendricks Talks Freely and Foreshadows His Plans.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., July 20.—In an interview with Mr. Hendricks this morning he was asked if he expected the committee to notify the candidates, and who have been notified to assemble in New York on July 25, to visit him here, after conveying their message to Gov. Cleveland.

"Certainly not," was the reply. "That would be an idle formality, involving useless trouble and expense. Mrs. Hendricks and I expect to go East next week. We will probably be in New York or Saratoga about the time of the proposed ratification to Gov. Cleveland, and it need not be a matter of inconvenience to the members of the committee if it shall formally communicate its message to me then."

Being questioned as to the tone of his letter of acceptance, Mr. Hendricks said: "Neither will that give me any great concern. It will be remembered that I recieved the same office from the same party eight years ago.

"In my letter of acceptance then, I expressed my ideas as to governmental policies. I tried to emphasize the fact that our Federal institutions have been shamed by a selfish and corrupt management of public affairs, and that in the various departments of the Government, dishonesty, rapacity and venality has debauched the public service. By the admission of many eminent Republicans who did not then sympathize with the Democracy nor support our candidate this condition of things still prevails and in an intensified form. This has given rise to the demand for civil service reform and the cure for those evils by the election of new men and promotion of measures is the overshadowing issue of the campaign."

BLAINE'S LETTER.

Reference being made to Mr. Blaine's letter of acceptance, Mr. Hendricks said that its length had prevented him from giving it a careful reading as yet. The headings showed that it was very largely devoted to the tariff issue which, no doubt, Blaine and his party would be glad to raise in some quarters, and to distort elsewhere. Upon this advance other questions of economic interest. Mr. Hendricks said he had long ago determined that for himself and as far as his influence extended there should never be discord in the party on a question that will take care of itself. In 1876 upon the question of resumption he had written: "I thoroughly believe that by public economy, by official retrenchments and by wise finance, enabling us to accumulate the precious metal we will champion at as early a period as passible these reforms, together with the restoration of pure government, will restore general confidence, encourage the useful investment of capital, furnish employment to labor and relieve the country from the paralysis of hard times." Experience had shown this to be correct and these causes to be more effective than the artificial aid of helping or hindering statucs. So with tariff reform, which Mr. Hendricks said, is demanded by the platform of both parties, is certain to come, and like other reforms, can most safely be entrusted to the party which is not responsible for existing abuses and the failure to cure them. That the Democracy are not seriously divided on this subject, appears from the fact that Mr. Hewitt and Mr. Randall, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Carlisle express themselves alike, satisfied with the Democratic platform in detail and as a whole. To the inquiry as to whether or not he would personally participate in the canvass, Mr. Hendricks said: "I expect to make a few speeches in Indiana, where I have been accustomed to participate in every campaign."

REFORM AND HONESTY.

"Do you then think that administrative reform and personal integrity in public office will be the leading issue of the campaign?" he was asked.

"Certainly I do," was his quick response, "the circumstances of the times so shape the issue. The Democrats unitedly declare it. Thousands of eminent Republicans and many of the ablest organs of the better sentiment of that party so formulate the supreme question of the campaign. The opposition show their fear of it by trying to evade it.

When I was nine years old in the public square of Shelbyville, the town of my boyhood and early life, there was set up a political pole with a huge hickory broom at the top. At my question what it meant Col. Aldrich, the County Clerk, answered: 'It means that if Jackson gets in he will sweep all the corruption out of the departments. That was my first political lesson. It made a powerful impression upon me. It has happened without forethought that my first speech has excited Secretary Chandler and brought this subject to the foreground of political discussion, and I will be glad to have it kept there throughout the campaign." Mr. Hendricks is in the best of health, and since his nomination has shared the fate of all conspicuous candidates, in being inundated with letters and telegrams of congratulation and advice. Old neighbors and clients drop in at all hours, and he is never too busy to talk to them.

The Queen of Night.

[For THE COMET.]

When the moon is grandly risen
In the cloudless Eastern sky,
And from day's illumined prison
Burst the stars forth proud and high;
When the dew is gently falling
On the tender leaflets green,
Oh! 'Tis then I love to wander
O'er the moonlit fairy scene.

When athwart the crystal waters
Gleams the moon's pure silvery light,
Making glad the farmers' daughters
With serene and pure delight;
Oft along that foot path yonder
Walk they where their feet of old,
Free from care, did blissful wander
Through earth's fairy regions strolled.

When the farmer after supper
Accoutered as a hunter born,
Calls up Bravo, Nip, and Tupper,
With the voice of hunter's horn,
When their hearts aglow with rapture
Gather friends their sport to share
Then o'er hill and dale they capture
Game beneath the moon's bright glare.

When the traveler worn and weary
On his journey sad and low,
Halts not through the long nights dreary
Forced by fateful need to go,
To his heart some joy is given
When his gaze to zenith flies,
Where the clouds by Luna riven
Show her queen of all the skies.

When the mariner discovers
Signs of fearful storms at sea,
As the gathering storm-cloud hovers
Lost the sailor's reckless glee,
If above the wild waves raging
Peeks the moon with beams of cheer,
Quick—the light their fears assuaging
Tells of safety drawing near.

From the hearts of peasants lowly
From high hearts of queens and kings,
Oh, proud Moon thus grand and slowly
Marching o'er terrestrial things,
Thou shalt win fond admiration
Until Time shall be no more,
Until by some sweet translation
Thou shalt light that other shore!

BELLE B. BARRY.

Knoxville, Tenn., July 21, 1884.

Science Hill Institute.

The exercises of this school will begin promptly the 1st of Sept., next. There will be a full corps of competent and experienced teachers in all the departments. Special care will be taken to advance the pupils in a regular and progressive course of study from the preparatory department to the senior collegiate, and no labor or zeal will be spared to make the course thorough and practical.

In all the studies, sufficient reasons will be given for every principle laid down in the text books, and the pupils will be required as far as practicable to answer qustions in their own language, which is more improving to the mind than the old laborious method of memorizing the answers in the books without understanding them.

Frequent lectures will be given by the teachers, bringing out all the main principles which lie at the foundation of a thorough and substantial education.

This is not a denominational school. All persons can patronize this institution with the assurance that their children will not be influenced in the direction of any particular church doctrine. But those great principles of morality endorsed by all christian people, will be enforced, so that the heart may be refined and educated as well as the head.

The course of instruction will embrace a regular college curriculum—a complete course of mathematics, including the differential and integral calculus—a thorough study of physical science, and a substantial course of latin and greek, together with a theoretical and practical training in vocal and instrumental music.

The session will continue nine months, and at the close, there will be a public examination, together with commencement exercises, contests for medals, exercises in vocal and instrumental music, where the advancement of the pupils in the various branches can be seen by their parents and the friends of the instution generally.

The discipline will be strict and firm. No pupil will be permitted to misbehave without being punished. No school can live without discipline—no person can be properly educated without it.

The school will be regularly graded, and every recitation will be noted in a book kept for that purpose, and the grades of the pupils will be read before the school at the end of every month.

The school building and grounds can be made beautiful with a little earnest effort upon the part of the people. We ask the enterprising citizens of this growing little city and the good people of the vicinity to unite in the effort now being made to repair Science Hill Institute and enclose and beautify the grounds. Some money has already been subscribied and the work has commenced; an order has been given to the factory to make 76 new desks (the latest and most improved pattern)—the carpenters are now at work on the institute—the building will be thoroughly repaired and painted inside and outside and a new bell will be ordered if the people will all help.

This being done, we promise to use every effort in our power to build up and sustain a school of high grade at Science Hill Institute. Respectfully,

W. A. FVANS, Prin.