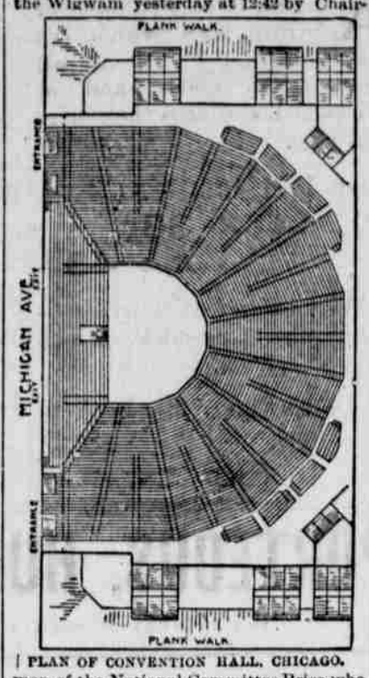
THE CONVENTION AT WORK.

A Brief Session to Transact the Preliminary Business.

CHICAGO, June 22.—The national Democratic convention was called to order in the Wigwam yesterday at 12:42 by Chairman of the National Committee Brice, who introduced Rev. John Rouse as chaplain for the day. After prayer Brice announced the temporary officers—Chairman, W. C. Owens, of Kentucky; secretary, S. P. Sheerin, of Indiana (with several assistants); principal reading clerk, Nicholas M. Bell; sergeant-at-arms, Richard J. Bright, of Indiana. Owens was escorted to the chair, and made a brief speech, in which he pleaded for unity and harmony, and advocated a tariff reform campaign.



PLAN OF CONVENTION HALL, CHICAGO.

The Preliminaries Attended To.

At the close of the speech, which was free applauded, the rules of the last Democratic national convention were adopted until otherwise ordered; this on motion of Gen Bragg. The usual motion that all resolutions be referred appropriately without debate was passed and a resolution adopted providing for the naming of the regular committees, and the delivery of the credentials of the delegates. Then the states were called for members of committees, each state answering as its name was called. There was applause during the call as the names of prominent men were announced on this or that committee.


"DICK" BRIGHT.

Applause for the Plumed Knight.

Resolutions to allow veteran soldiers, organized clubs, and the crowd of 25,000 Democrats outside to occupy the 7,000 or so vacant seats in the gallery were severally and promptly referred. Cable, of Illinois offered a resolution expressing the sympathy of the convention with Hon. James G. Blaine in his recent bereavement, and it was adopted unanimously, while Blaine's name was received with loud applause. An invitation to visit the World's fair site was read, and there being no further business before the convention it adjourned until 1 a. m. today.

NOTIFIED THE PRESIDENT.

McKinley Formally Makes Known to Him His Nomination.

WASHINGTON, June 21.—Governor McKinley and the committee appointed at Minneapolis to notify the president of his nomination to the office of president of the United States called upon General Harrison yesterday and performed their duty. McKinley's address was short and to the point. It began with an assurance of the pleasure with which the committee brought to him the message and closed with the personal congratulations of the members and an earnest expression of faith in victory at the polls in November.

The President's Reply.

The president was brief in his reply and complimented the work of the Fifty-first congress and that of his advisers in the cabinet, predicting that it would prove of great benefit to the country. He also expressed his gratitude for his party's confidence in him. He was frequently applauded and after the speeches entertained the committee at lunch.

Notified Whitelaw Reid.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., June 21.—The committee appointed at Minneapolis to notify Hon. Whitelaw Reid of his nomination for vice president waited upon him at Ophir farm Tuesday and formally discharged their mission. Senator Dubois spoke for the committee, and Mr. Reid made a suitable response accepting the nomination. Luncheon was afterward served, and the party returned to New York to attend the ratification meeting in Music hall Tuesday night, at which Governor McKinley and others spoke.

Fatal Wreck on the Rail.

MONTREAL, June 21.—The eastern Grand Trunk express, which is due at Montreal at noon, was ditched near Hillhurt station Tuesday morning. The killed are: Joseph Cown, Montreal, baggageman; Mark Dale, Island Pond, engineer; unknown man, Richmond, fireman. The injured include the mail clerk, two brakemen, two section men, and one passenger. The mail clerk was reported to be missing. The locomotive and three cars went over the dump. The accident was due to a washout caused by the recent heavy rains.

Robbed of a Large Amount.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., June 21.—George Geltmaker, a Louisville butcher, was robbed of $5,500 by three masked men back of New Albany, Ind., Monday afternoon. He was on his way to buy a farm in answer to an advertisement. There is no clue to the highwaymen. Geltmaker came to Louisville and offered a reward of $500 for the capture of the robbers.

Want a Couple of Official Scalps.

TOLEDO, June 18.—Proceedings have been commenced here to impeach Mayor Vincent J. Emmick and Chief of Police Benjamin F. Raitz for alleged failure to enforce the Sunday base ball law. The movement is backed by the ministers in the city who are endeavoring to raise a fund to defray the expenses of legal proceedings.

A Literary and Conversation Society of Young Women That is Alive.

The Tourists of Price Hill, Cincinnati—a successful travel club of several years' standing—has recently joined the general federation. The club idea was brought to Price Hill from "The Tourists" of Cedar Rapids, Ia., by Miss Julia Burnet (Mrs. Clarence A. Turrell), who, with Miss Nellie Moore (Mrs. Asa Bushnell Morgan), organized a new club in October, 1884, upon the same general plan.

After going about Europe in true tourist style for two years, the Tourists settled down for a year in Germany, studying music, literature and art. The fourth year they gave to a more thorough enjoyment of Italy and England. Then patriotism led them, tired of exile, to devote two years to their own country. And during this time they also visited Canada, made the fashionable trip to Alaska and had a very satisfactory glimpse of Mexico. The past season found them delighted with their well planned tour through South America.

The Tourists meet from 3 to 5 o'clock every other Tuesday, from October to June. The usual afternoon programme calls for quotations in response to roll call, one or two papers, a reading or recitation, musical interludes, and ends with a half hour's conversation on a given topic under a named leader.

Having followed the plan of rotation in office for seven years, the Tourists have proved it an excellent one, keeping up the interest and bringing out the latent talents of each individual member.

The newly printed programme greets the members at the first regular meeting each fall—always on the first Tuesday in October. The programme is prepared during the three months of the summer recess, by a committee of three members appointed by the new executive committee after the annual election in May. The programme committee, acting with the president, has full power to map out the route and assign the work. The work on this committee is considered the most difficult and important that can be given a member; but each in turn has declared herself well repaid for her labor by the thorough knowledge of interesting countries gained in the necessarily studious preparation.

Some account of one of the Tourists' half hour conversations may perhaps interest those who would like to make such a feature a part of their own club programmes. "Myths and Folk Lore of the Amazonian Indians" proved one of the most entertaining topics of their recent tour through South America. After giving an introductory explanation of the subject, the leader, Miss Kate Leslie Moore, called upon members of the club for tales and legends current among these Indians. The myths, as was conclusively proved, have their variants among the negroes of our southern states, as well as among the Kaffirs and Hottentots of southern Africa. The members of the club had received an intimation that they were to be called upon for certain work and were found well prepared.

Among the Tourists it is considered a more difficult task to lead a conversation than to write a paper. It is necessary to be prepared at all points, for the member depended upon for an especially important part may disappoint one. She may perhaps bring a scrap of paper bristling with uninteresting statistics, which she calmly proceeds to read, or, having learned the little article privately bestowed upon her by heart, nervously makes of it a parrotlike recitation. It requires a great deal of tact and considerable practice before the one endeavoring to lead can successfully overcome the deadening effects of such additions to the conversation. Realizing what splendid drill these half hour conversations are, the Tourists strive bravely after the ideal extemporaneous speech. When occasionally the conversation degenerates into a series of little readings and the failure from their ideal conversation dampens their ardor and hurts their pride the Tourists always find that it is because a multiplicity of other interests has prevented them from taking time for proper preparation. This is essential to even the smallest success.—Cor. Homemaker.

A Leap Year Proposition.

As leap year is upon us the momentous question, Shall women propose? confronts us in various newspaper columns, with its usual four yearly regularity.

Conservative people will of course pooh pooh the idea, and the more frivolous laugh at the same. Some of our radical, would be social innovators will be advocates, and others will fulminate their varied denunciations.

Considered in the abstract we do not see why a woman should not express her natural preferences as freely as a man in regard to the opposite sex. Indeed, she seems to be free to do so in every other respect but that of love and marriage. And yet is not this the most important of all earthly relations to the human race as society is at present organized?

Mere reasoning aside, however, other considerations enter into our estimates of propriety. Here we have sentiment, which so largely makes up the sum of womanly opinions on most subjects outside of bread and breathing.

As the majority of people think now, and as they will probably continue to think for many years to come, there are certain moral and social questions wherein old time precedent will doubtless continue to rule! The realm of courtship and marriage still lies fully within these prescribed limits.

In this affair it has from time immemorial been her inalienable and altogether charming privilege to be the one who should be sought, wooed and won. Whether this be abstractly right or wrong it is so ingrained in the very nature of society at large that the isolated kicks which are here and there made have so far produced little or no effect.—Yankee Blade.

Money That Patti Has Earned.

That marvelous little diva, Adelina Patti, is with us again. When I saw her last time she had charming Titian hair—hair in which there was a suggestion of autumnal sunset. Now they tell me her hair is as dark as a raven's wing. What a pretty and gifted woman Patti is! And to think of the money which she has honestly earned with her sweet voice! Not less than $3,000,000, I should say, including douceurs from the czar of Russia and the kings and potentates of Europe. Her Craig-y-Nos castle is a royal palace. Of all the women that have come and gone upon this earth not one has ever earned so much money as Adelina Patti, the daughter of a wandering Italian minstrel. Queens and favorites have been richer than she, but the wealth was not of their getting.

When I last saw Patti it was in the Hoffman House last year. I called by invitation. She had been suffering from a cold and had not been singing for nearly a week. She was gracious and affable and vivacious, but in the midst of the chatter—which had lasted for a half hour—her devoted husband, Nicolini, interposed, and informed her that

THE MAN WITH A FAILING.

His Efforts to Relieve the Intense Anxiety Were Not Appreciated.

It was 10:30 o'clock at night, and the rain and wind and darkness made it a wild one, when the train suddenly came to a halt. Some one had swung a lantern on the track about a quarter of a mile from the bridge spanning Shady creek. Those of us who turned out to learn what was up saw a farmer-looking man come back to the smoking car with the conductor, and when in out of the storm the latter asked:

"Now, then, you say there's trouble ahead. What is it? Talk fast, for I am now twelve minutes behind time."

The man was about forty years old, dressed in coarse clothing and was wet to the skin. The lantern was an old fashioned one, made of tin, and the light was furnished by a piece of candle about three inches long.

"Look a-here, gineral," he replied to the conductor in a nervous way, "go sorter slow on me or I can't tell yo' the story."

"What do you mean?"

"I've—I've got a failin. If yo' git me excited I'll stut-stut-stutter till yo' can't understand a word I say."

"Very well; you stopped us?"

"Yes; I felt called to do it. Hold on, now! Don't push me!"

"I'll give you time. You live near here, don't you?"

"Right up by the branch thar'. Lived thar' goin on twenty years. Keep cool, gineral, and don't git me narvous. I'm a-doin all right so fur."

"Well, you felt called upon to stop us?"

"I did. It's been rainin purty steady fur about a week."

"Yes."

"The branch has jest been a-humpin of herself fur the last two days."

"Yes, the water has been rising."

"Hold on, gineral! Don't chip in too fast. I'm a-holdin of myself as hard as I kin, but I feel my tongue wobblin around. This noon I seen the water risin mighty fast and I felt it my duty to watch it. I went up agin about dark and then agin an hour ago. I knowed when you was due here, and"——

"And you stopped us. Good heavens, man! but the bridge is gone!"

"Hold on, gineral! You are goin too fast! I t-t-told you if you g-g-got me ex-ex"——

"Take it easy," replied the conductor. "Just think what you want to say and then speak very slow. Great lands! but what an escape!"

"Gineral, I reckoned yo'd worry about the bridge."

"Yes, I've been very anxious about it."

"Yo' knowed the water was risin way up."

"Yes."

"I told the old woman you'd worry about it, and that I'd best git the lantern and stop the t-t-train a-a-and t-t-tell—tell"——

"Take it easy, man, there's no hurry. You got your lantern and stopped the train to tell us that the bridge had been floated off by the freshet. I understand and I can promise you"——

"Gineral!"

"Yes."

"The bridge is all right! I reckoned yo'd worry over it, and so I got the lantern and stopped the train to tell you that the water had gone down four feet and the bridge hadn't suffered a ha'r!"

I don't remember all the conductor said when he got at the facts, nor how many passengers helped throw the man down among the bushes, but when the train moved on he was banging the old tin lantern around and calling:

"G-G-Gineral, I'll be h-h-hanged if I don't see this old r-r-road in T-T-Texas before I ever do it another fa-fa-favor!"—New York World.

Antidote for Snake and Dog Bites.

Dr. Engels has discovered in Africa a remedy for blood poisoning caused by the bites of snakes and rabid dogs. This remedy is the "wild growing black noble palm." It is stated that 500 negroes bitten by poisonous snakes were treated with the extract of the palm and 487 were cured in five days. Of sixty-five farmers and negroes bitten by rabid dogs all but two were saved.

The extract is injected under the skin and causes a moderate fever. On the third day the fever and inflammation disappear, and on the fifth or seventh day the patient is cured.—New York Telegram.

Two Ways of Removing Mildew.

To remove mildew moisten the spots and rub well with soap, then scrape some chalk very fine and rub that in also; lay in the sun, wetting the goods from time to time. Take equal parts of lemon juice, salt, starch and soft soap, rub on thickly and lay on the grass in the hot sun. Renew the application two or three times a day.—Good Housekeeping.

Nicaragua Tea.

Nicaragua is ambitious to pose as a tea growing country, and evidences of the adaptability of the soil, climate, etc., to the prosecution of that branch of industry are being collected and will form part of Nicaragua's exhibit at the World's fair.