

A NEW PRESIDENT.

William McKinley Assumes the Highest Office in the Land.

Most Brilliant Parade Ever Witnessed in Washington—Inaugural Address Urges Financial Reform and More Revenue—The Ball.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The capital city never looked upon such a perfect parade as that which escorted President McKinley from the capitol to the white house and then passed in review under his eye. The feature of the splendid pageant was the perfect balance between its contrasting parts and the high order of skill that was shown in the handling of the 20,000 or more men that stepped along or bestrode the splendid steeds that danced and reared their way in the parade.

There was no long-drawn-out massing of uniformly attired regular troops or militia, pleasing enough to the military eye, but wearisome to the spectators who made up the vast crowd. Nor was there any preponderance of widely separated civic organizations, whose identity was scarcely distinguishable through the presence or absence of a high hat or different col-



PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

ored overcoat. Instead, the military display was just large enough and had just enough variety to give the people a pleasing opportunity to dwell upon the difference between the three great arms of the service, while as for the civic organizations, their leaders showed the necessary ingenuity in the variety of their costumes to make it a delight to look upon their closely drawn lines. Amid the merry spectators a hearty need of applause and a reverential uncovering of heads was called forth by the passage of the limping and battle-scarred veterans of the war, now few in number, but of sturdy heart.

The Inaugural Address.

President McKinley made his fealty to the American people on the east terrace of the capitol. He arose and uncovered, while Chief Justice Fuller, in his flowing robes, administered the oath in the presence of the tremendous multitude. The new president kissed the large gilt-edged Bible presented by the bishops of the African Methodist church, to seal his oath. A dazzling and inspiring scene spread out before him as he appeared on the steps of the senate wing. A glorious southern spring sun blazed from a blue sky, an auspicious augury for his administration. Except for Mr. Cleveland's



VICE PRESIDENT HOBART.

first inauguration in 1855, there has been no such an ideal day for the momentous ceremony. President McKinley said in part:

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. The responsibilities of the high trust to which I have been called—always of grave importance—are augmented by the prevailing business conditions, entailing idleness on willing labor and loss to useful enterprises. The country is suffering from industrial disturbances from which speedy relief must be had. Our financial system needs some revision; our money is all good now, but its value must not further be threatened. It should all be put on an enduring basis not subject to easy attack, nor its stability to doubt or dispute. Our currency should continue under the supervision of the government. The several forms of our paper money offer, in my judgment a constant embarrassment to the government and a safe balance in the treasury. Therefore I believe it necessary to devise a system which, without diminishing the circulating medium or offering a premium for its contraction, will present a remedy for those arrangements which, temporary in their nature, might well in the years of our prosperity have been displaced by wiser provisions. With adequate revenue secured, but not until then, we can enter upon such changes in our fiscal laws as will, while insuring safety and volume to our money, no longer impose upon the government the necessity of maintaining so large a gold reserve, with its attendant and inevitable temptation, to speculation. If, therefore, con-

gress in its wisdom shall deem it expedient to create a commission to take under early consideration the revision of our coinage, banking and currency laws and give them that exhaustive, careful and dispassionate consideration that their importance demands, I shall concur in such action. If such power is vested in the president, it is my purpose to appoint a com-



JOHN SHERMAN, (of Ohio) Secretary of State.

mission of prominent, well-informed citizens of different parties who will command public confidence both on account of their ability and special fitness for the work.

For International Bimetallism.

The question of international bimetallism will have early and earnest attention. It will be my constant endeavor to secure co-operation with the other great commercial powers of the world. Until that condition is realized when the parity between our gold and silver money is supported by the relative value of the two metals, the value of the silver already coined and of that which may hereafter be coined must be kept constantly at par with gold by every resource at our command. The credit of the government, the integrity of its currency and the inviolability of its obligations must be preserved. This was the commanding verdict of the people and it will not be unheeded.

Economy Must Be Observed.

Economy is demanded in every branch of the government at all times, but especially in periods like the present of depression in business and distress among the people. The severest economy must be observed in all public expenditures and extravagance stopped wherever it is and prevented wherever in the future it may be developed. The government should not be permitted to run behind or increase its debt in times like the present. A deficiency is inevitable so long as the expenditures of the government exceed its receipts. It can only be met by loans or an increased revenue. While a large annual surplus of revenue may invite waste and extravagance, inadequate revenue creates distrust and undermines public and private credit. Neither should be encouraged.

Not in Favor of Loans.

The best way for the government to maintain its credit is to pay as it goes—by resorting to loans, but by keeping out of debt—through



LYMAN J. GAGE, (of Illinois) Secretary of the Treasury.

an adequate income secured by a system of taxation, external or internal, or both. It is the settled policy of the government, pursued from the beginning, practiced by all parties and administrations, to raise the bulk of our revenue from taxes on foreign productions entering the United States for sale, and avoiding, for the most part, every form of direct taxation, except in the time of war. The people have declared that such legislation should be had as will give ample protection and encourage to the industries and the development of our country. It is, therefore, earnestly hoped and expected that congress, will, at the earliest practical moment enact revenue legislation that shall be fair, reasonable, conservative and just and which, while supplying sufficient revenue for public purposes, will still be signally beneficial and helpful to every section, and every enterprise of the people.

In the revision of the tariff, especial attention should be given to the re-enactment and extension of the reciprocity principle of the law of 1890, under which so great a stimulus was given to our foreign trade in new and advantageous markets for our surplus agricultural and manufactured products.

Manufacturing Must Be Revived.

The depression of the past four years has fallen with especial severity upon the great body of toilers of the country and upon none more than the holders of small farms. Agriculture has languished and labor suffered. The



RUSSELL A. ALGER, (of Michigan) Secretary of War.

revival of manufacturing will be a relief to both. No portion of our population is more devoted to the institutions of free government nor more loyal to their support, while none bears more cheerfully or fully its proper share in the maintenance of the government or is better entitled to its wise and liberal care and protection. Legislation helpful to producers is beneficial

to all. Business conditions are not the most promising. It will take time to restore the prosperity of former years. The restoration of confidence and the revival of business which men of all parties so much desire depend more largely upon the prompt, energetic and intelligent action of congress than upon any other single agency affecting the situation.

Against Trusts and Combinations.

The declaration of the party now restored to power has been in the past that of "opposition to all combinations of capital organized in trusts or otherwise, to control arbitrarily the condition of trade among our citizens," and it has supported "such legislation as will prevent the execution of all schemes to oppress the people by undue charges on their supplies, or by just rates for the transportation of their products to market." This purpose will be steadily pursued both by the enforcement of the laws now in existence and the recommendation and support of such new statutes as may be necessary to carry it into effect.

Our naturalization and immigration laws should be further improved to the constant promotion of a safer, a better and a higher citizenship. Reforms in the civil service must go on. But the changes should be real and genuine, not perfunctory, or prompted by a zeal in behalf of any party, simply because it happens to be in power.

A Great Merchant Marine.

Congress should give prompt attention to the restoration of our American merchant marine, once the pride of the seas in all the great ocean highways of commerce. To my mind few more important subjects so imperatively demand its intelligent consideration. The United States has progressed with marvelous rapidity in every field of enterprise and endeavor until we have become foremost in nearly all the great lines of inland trade, commerce and industry. Yet, while this is true, our American



JOHN D. LONG, (of Massachusetts) Secretary of the Navy.

merchant marine has been steadily declining until it is now lower both in the percentage and tonnage and the number of vessels employed than it was prior to the civil war. Commendable progress has been made of late years in the upbuilding of the American navy, but we must supplement these efforts by providing as a proper consort for it a merchant marine amply sufficient for our own carrying trade to foreign countries. The question is one that appeals both to our business necessities and the patriotic aspirations of a great people.

War Only as a Last Resort.

It has been the policy of the United States since the foundation of the government to cultivate relations of peace and amity with all the nations of the world, and this accords with my conception of our duty now. We have cherished the policy of non-interference with the affairs of foreign governments, wisely inaugurated by Washington, keeping ourselves free from entanglements, either as allies or foes, content to leave undisturbed with them the settlement of their own domestic concerns. It will be our aim to pursue a dignified foreign policy which shall be just, impartial, ever watchful of our national honor and always insisting upon the enforcement of the lawful rights of American citizens everywhere. We want no wars of conquest; we must avoid the temptation of territorial aggression. A war should never be entered until every agency of peace has failed; peace is preferable to war in almost every contingency. Arbitration is the true method of settlement of international as well as local or individual differences. Its application was extended to our diplomatic relations by the unanimous concurrence of the senate and house of the Fifty-first congress in 1890. The latter resolution was accepted as the basis of negotiations with the United States by the British house of commons in 1893 and upon our invitation a treaty of arbitration between the United States and Great



CORNELIUS N. BLISS, (of New York) Secretary of the Interior.

Britain was signed at Washington and transmitted to the senate for its ratification in January last. I respectfully urge the early action of the senate thereupon, not simply as a matter of policy but as a duty to man.

Extra Session of Congress Necessary.

It has been the practice to avoid, as far as possible, the calling of congress in extraordinary session. It is an example which, under ordinary circumstances and in the absence of a public necessity, is to be commended. But a failure to convene the representatives of the people in congress in extra session when it involves neglect of a public duty, places the responsibility of such neglect upon the executive himself. The condition of the public treasury, as has been indicated, demands the immediate consideration of congress. Not to convene it under such circumstances I can view in no other sense than the neglect of a plain duty.

It has always seemed to me that the postponement of the meeting of congress until more than a year after it has been chosen, deprived congress too often of the inspiration of the popular will and the country of the corresponding benefits. It is evident, therefore, that to postpone action in the presence of so great a necessity would be unwise on the part of the executive because unjust to the interests of the people. In view of these considerations I shall deem it my duty as president to convene congress in extraordinary session, on Monday, the 15th day of March, 1897.

In conclusion, I congratulate the country upon the fraternal spirit of the people and the manifestations of good will everywhere so apparent. The recent election not only, most fortunately demonstrated the obliteration of sectional or geographical lines, but to some extent also the prejudices which for years have disturbed our councils and marred our true greatness as a nation.

Let me again repeat the words of the oath administered by the chief justice which, in their

respective spheres, so far as applicable, I would have all my countrymen observe: "I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the United States." This is the obligation I have reverently taken before the Lord most high. To keep it will be my single purpose, my constant prayer—and I shall confidently rely



JAMES A. GARY, (of Maryland) Postmaster-General.

upon the forbearance and assistance of all the people in the discharge of my solemn responsibilities.

One Continuous Ovation.

As President McKinley and ex-President Cleveland, arm in arm, emerged from the capitol after the lunch the buglers sounded a salute and cheers went up, frightening the horses and making a confusion in bringing forward the handsome turnout which was to bear the presidential party to the white house. Mr. McKinley took the rear seat on the left with Mr. Cleveland beside him on the right. On the front seat were Sherman, muffled in a fur collar, and Senator Mitchell, of Wisconsin.

It was one continuous ovation from the start. The president raised his hat time and time again, bowing and smiling his acknowledgments. From windows, roofs and trees rang continuous cheers, while flags and handkerchiefs were waved in demonstrative greeting. Mr. McKinley, seeing that his salutes were continuous, at last sat bareheaded, hat in hand, waving acknowledgments to the multitude. At the Peace monument the brilliant escort



JOSEPH MCKENNA, (of California) Attorney-General.

and the presidential party swung into the broad avenue and took its course along the crowded thoroughfares to the executive mansion. When the head of the parade came in sight of the thousands lining the way to the capitol, the magnificent stretch of broad asphalt of Pennsylvania avenue was swept as clean of intruders as though the whole town was deserted, for behind the wire rope a steady patrol of police had forced 100,000 persons. Then up and down the avenue rose a cheer that rolled and echoed back, and was taken up and repeated again and again, as the carriage of the president and ex-president rolled into view.

Over such a triumphal way, and the presence and thunderous applause of unending crowds, President McKinley was escorted to the white house. The president's reviewing stand occupied two thirds of the white house ground. It was a solidly built and finished structure, carefully designed and tastefully decorated. The background was white, the columns were twined with green and the national colors in floating colors and woven and draped designs were the chief ornament. The stand seated 1,000. The president



JAMES WILSON, (of Iowa) Secretary of Agriculture.

stood in a projecting area, sheltered by glass. The audience was notable in all its elements.

The Inaugural Ball.

The inaugural ball was the climax of the day. To the minds of many there was nothing comparable to it. The presidential party arrived at the ball at a quarter before ten o'clock, but they came in so quietly at the main entrance of the south side of the building that only those gathered about the

door were aware of their presence. The party were ushered up to the main staircase to the front, where they received the most distinguished guests. Gen. Wilson made the presentations, and to each of those who paid their respects President McKinley gave a cordial handshake. President and Mrs. McKinley and the remainder of the party, descended to the dancing floor. The president, with Mrs. McKinley on his arm, moved slowly along, smiling and bowing in response to the low murmured greetings from both sides. The party entered a supper room at the west end of the building and partook of light refreshments. In a few minutes they emerged from the supper room and returned as they had come, through an aisle cleared for them. Mr. and Mrs. McKinley immediately entered their carriage and were driven back to the white house. It was shortly after 11 o'clock when they took their departure. The ball was then formally opened.

JACKSON'S INAUGURATION

A Mob Followed Him and Invaded the White House.

An eye witness, who took a somewhat jocosse view of the day's events, wrote that the most remarkable fea-



CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER.

ture about Jackson as he marched down the aisle of the senate with a quick, large step, as though he proposed to storm the capitol, was his double pair of spectacles. He habitually wore two pairs, one for reading and the other for seeing at a distance, the pair not in use being placed across the top of his head. On this occasion, says the eye witness, the pair on his head reflected the light; and some of the rural admirers of the old hero were firmly persuaded that they were two plates of metal let into his head to close up holes made by British bullets. When he appeared on the portico we are told that the shout which arose rent the air and seemed to shake the very ground. The ceremony ended, the general mounted his horse to proceed to the white house and the whole crowd followed him.

"The president," says a contemporary writer, "was literally pursued by a motley concourse of people, riding, running helter-skelter, striving who should first gain admittance into the executive mansion, where it was understood that refreshments were to be distributed." An abundance of refreshments had been provided, including many barrels of orange punch. As the waiters opened the doors to bring



MRS. MCKINLEY.

out the punch in pails, the crowd rushed upon them, upsetting the pails, and breaking the glasses. Inside the house the crush was so great that distribution of refreshments was impossible, and tubs of orange punch were set out in the grounds to entice people from the rooms. Jackson himself was so pressed against the wall of the reception room that he was in danger of injury, and was protected by a number of men linking arms and forming a barrier against the crowd. Men with boots heavy with mud stood on the satin-covered chairs and sofas in their eagerness to get a view of the hero. Judge Story wrote that the crowd contained all sorts of people, from the highest and most polished down to the most vulgar and gross in the nation. "I never saw such a mixture," he added. "The reign of King Mob seemed triumphant. I was glad to escape from the scene as soon as possible."—Joseph R. Bishop, in Century.

Competent Criticism.

Men are not supposed to know much about the fashions, unless they are professionally interested in them, but there are cases when their judgment may not be altogether impertinent.

A lady, meeting another, said to her: "And how does your husband like your new dress?"

"I don't know yet."

"Why, hasn't he seen it?"

"Yes, but he hasn't seen the bill!"—Youth's Companion.