

HON. J. V. WOLFE'S SPEECH.

Delivered on the Opening of the Kearney Convention.

The hour has now arrived for calling this convention to order. In performing this, my official duty, and before yielding the gavel to your choice for temporary chairman of the convention, allow me just a few words.

In the first place let me congratulate you on this magnificent attendance. This is but our third state nominating convention, and yet in numbers and intelligence it breaks all previous records of our own, or either of the old parties in Nebraska. I congratulate you further upon the bright prospects everywhere spread out before us for the speedy triumph of the grand principles of the grandest party that ever went forth to battle for human rights. I congratulate you especially upon the deep earnestness that I see depicted in the countenances now before me. As I look over this vast sea of faces I see evidences to my mind "as strong as proof of holy writ" that you are here for no idle purpose, but that you mean and intend business. A very large majority of you I recognize from your bronzed faces as the sunburnt sons of toil, and all of you I know are the steadfast friends of honest labor wherever performed. You have not come here for pleasure or for your physical health. You have come here from the remotest parts of the states as the accredited delegates from your various counties, confided with a sacred trust and to perform a solemn duty. No private palace cars were placed at your disposal, no free passes were furnished you to lessen your expense. At your own expense and at great personal and pecuniary sacrifice you have left your plows idle in the furrow, and your reapers motionless in the field, and, at the call of duty, and in the interest of humanity, you are here to seek and do justice.

My brothers, workers in this great field, a field already ripe and rich with the harvest-laborers in this grand work of financial reform—soldiers in the coming battle for industrial emancipation, let your actions here at this convention attest your loyalty and your devotion to the principles we have espoused.

If this movement means anything it means everything that is Godlike and grand. It means that, laying aside all personal ambition and all petty spite and jealousy, we will strive only for the uplifting and the upbuilding of a nobler humanity, and the establishment of a grander civilization. It means that the fight that we have so courageously begun shall go on in spite of foes without or foes within, until every human being in all this broad land shall be able to sit down under his own vine and fig tree and peaceably enjoy the fruits of his honest toil.

We have both said and sung, "Good Bye, Old Party, Good Bye." Let us see to it that we say it and sing it with the spirit and with the understanding. As we have abandoned the old parties themselves, let us leave behind us every objectionable feature of them, and make our party in fact, what we claim it—a party of the people, by the people and for the people.

Our history stretching backward about three years has broken, in many respects, all previous party records. We broke it in St. Louis by the Amens that were said—by the Hallelujahs that were sung, and the tears that were shed when the grand principles that were there enunciated, were first agreed to by united labor, and promulgated as labor's creed to the civilized world. We broke the record at Omaha at our first national convention to nominate candidates for president and vice-president, when we recognized the south as an integral portion of this our common country. There it was also that we broke all party records when we showed and proved our devotion to principles more than to any man, or to all the grand men who composed that magnificent gathering. The scene after the adoption of our platform is yet before me, and will remain fresh in the memory of everyone who witnessed it, as long as memory shall perform its office.

The record of all previous political conventions was also broken at Omaha when mingled with the voices of the aged and the young was heard the cry

Your state committee will also break all former records by making to this convention a financial report of all moneys received and where from, and all moneys expended and what for, and ask that a committee be appointed to thoroughly examine their work.

With such a past, my brothers, so fresh in all our memories, with the present so full of encouragement, and with the future so bright with hope and full of promise, and with the streakings everywhere around us that proclaim the dawning of a better day to labor, can it be that we do not realize our responsibility, or that any of us shall fail to do our whole duty on this occasion, and in the coming struggle? I do not believe it. I cannot believe it. I will not believe it. I cannot call you all by name, but for two long years I have known you as true, loyal independents; as loyal workers in this grand movement. We have met together. We have talked together. We have fought together. We have even wept together, and together have gone down to defeat, but we are here tonight to select our leaders, to mass our forces, and to go forth to renewed battle. With unity and harmony and fraternity to characterize our proceedings, no one can doubt the result.

We have our enemies already on the run and if they shall fail here and now in this, their last opportunity to breed discord and create strife among you, as fail they will and fail they must, their last hope will be gone. Open discussion of men is all right. Fair and honorable criticism of all aspirants to office is not only right but is eminent y proper, but he who would sow broadcast in our homes and in your hearts the seeds not only of discord but of hate, is his own worst enemy if not yours, for I am taught "that whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." I am not here for any selfish purpose or as a champion for any living man, but I am here and I believe you are here in the interest of a cause we all dearly love and for which we have all a ready sacrificed so much. Let us therefore do our work here like men and like men go forth from this place arm in arm and shoulder to shoulder and carry forward the work begun here tonight to a grand success. As firmly as I believe that success in November depends very much upon the ticket you are about to nominate, yet I am persuaded that even more depends upon the spirit in which your proceedings are conducted, and upon the good feeling existing between us when our work is done. With unity of purpose and harmony of action and with an altogether pull from now until the election, and at the polls we can elect any good ticket you may here name, but without these chances are that we can elect no ticket however good, and he who does not recognize this fact, it would seem to me, courts even if he does not desire, defeat.

In saying as much as I have in opening this convention I may have again broken all past records and it would be improper for me to say more, but it would have been almost impossible for me to have said less.

I now commit to your own interest and that of the independent party of Nebraska, into your own keeping in the hope and in the firm belief and with the fervent prayer, that you will guard that interest well and guide the party to victory in November.

I will now hear nominations for temporary chairman.

The Campaign in Adams County.

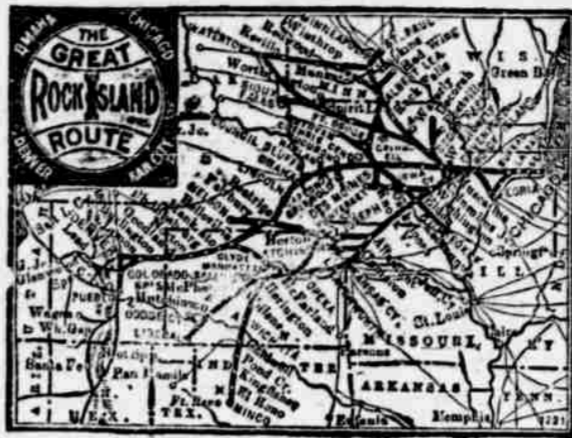
A people's party rally and picnic will be held at Pauline, in Adams county, on August 16. Carl Brown of California and other prominent speakers will be present and open the campaign for the independents in that county.

Very Queer.

Effie: "Did George play football while he was at college?" Maude: "No. I don't think he did." Effie: "Did he row on the crew?" Maude: "I never heard anything about it." Effie: "Then he must have played baseball." Maude: "He never said anything about it. I'm pretty sure he didn't, though." Effie: "That's very queer." Maude: "Why?" Effie: "Because I heard that he was graduated

A MAN

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Jinks—"I don't believe Dante's description of the Inferno is correct." Winks—"Why not?" Jinks—"Not one of the shades said to any other shade: 'Is this hot enough for you?'"

Notice to Bridge Contractors.

Notice is hereby given, that sealed bids will be received by the County Clerk of Furnas County Nebraska for the erection of one combination bridge across the Republican river on the county line between Harlan and Furnas counties near the village of Oxford.

Said bridge to be 300 feet long and to consist of 6 spans of 60 feet each with a roadway 14 feet wide in the clear, and the road bed to be 11 feet above low water mark.

Said bridge to be built in all respects according to the plans and specifications now on file in the office of the county clerk.

The commissioners of Furnas County and the supervisors of Harlan county will enter into a joint contract for the erection of said bridge.

The bids for same will be received by the undersigned on or before noon of September 5th, 1892 and must be accompanied by a good and sufficient bond in case contract is awarded.

The county commissioners however reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

Witness my hand and county seal this 1st day of August 1892.

(SEAL) H. W. McFADDEN,
County Clerk.

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