

ample revenues, with education and public health established, free from debt and connected with the United States by wise provisions for our mutual interest.

We have organized the government of Porto Rico, and its people now enjoy peace, freedom, order and prosperity.

In the Philippines we have suppressed insurrection, established order and given to life and property a security never known there before. We have organized civil government, made it effective and strong in administration and have conferred upon the people of those islands the largest civil liberty they have ever enjoyed.

By our possession of the Philippines we were enabled to take prompt and effective action in the relief of the legations at Peking and a decisive part in preventing the partition and in the preserving of the integrity of China.

The possession of a route for an isthmian canal, so long the dream of American statesmanship, is now an accomplished fact. The great work of connecting the Pacific and Atlantic oceans by a canal is at last begun, and it is due to the republican party.

We have passed laws which will bring the arid lands of the United States within the area of cultivation.

We have organized the army and put it in the highest state of efficiency.

We have passed laws for the improvement and support of the militia.

We have pushed forward the building of the navy, the defense and the protection of our honor and our interests.

Our administration of the great de-

partments of the government has been honest and efficient and wherever wrongdoing has been discovered the republican administration has not hesitated to probe the evil and bring offenders to justice without regard to party or political ties.

Laws enacted by the republican party which the democratic party failed to enforce and which were intended for the protection of the public against unfair discrimination or the illegal encroachment of vast aggregation of capital have been fearlessly enforced by a republican president, and new laws, insuring publicity as regard the great corporations and providing additional remedies for the prevention of discrimination in freight rates, have been passed by a republican congress.

In this record of achievement during the last eight years may be read the pledges which the republican party has fulfilled. We propose to continue these policies and we declare our constant adherence to the following principles:

Protection which guards and develops our industries is a cardinal principle of the republican party. The measure of protection should always at least equal the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad. We insist upon the maintenance of the principles of protection, and therefore rates of duty should be readjusted only when conditions have so changed that the public interest demands their alteration, but the work cannot be safely committed to any other hands than those of the republican party.

To entrust it to the democratic party is to invite disaster. Whether, as in 1892, the democratic party decides the protective tariff unconstitutional, or whether it demands tariff reform or tariff revision, its principal object is always the destruction of the protective system. However specious the name, the purpose is ever the same. A democratic tariff has always been followed by business reverses, a republican tariff by business prosperity. To a republican congress and a republican president this great question can be safely entrusted.

When the only free trade country among the great nations agitates a return to protection the chief protective country should not falter in maintaining it.

We have extended widely our foreign markets and we believe in the adoption of all practicable methods for their future extension, including commercial reciprocity wherever reciprocal arrangements can be effected consistent with the principles of protection and without injury to American agriculture, American labor or any American industry.

We believe it to be the duty of the republican party to uphold the gold standard and the integrity and value of our national currency. The maintenance of the gold standard, established by the republican party, cannot safely be committed to the democratic party, which resisted its adoption and has never given any proof since that time of belief in it or fidelity to it.

While every other industry has prospered under the fostering aid of the republican party, American shipping engaged in foreign trade in competition with the low cost of construction, low wages and heavy subsidies of foreign governments has not for many years received from the government of the United States adequate encouragement of any kind. We therefore favor legislation which will encourage and build up the American merchant marine and we cordially approve the legislation of the last congress which created the merchant marine commission to investigate and report upon this subject.

A navy powerful enough to defend the United States against any attack, to uphold the Monroe doctrine and

watch over our commerce is essential to the safety and the welfare of the American people. To maintain such a navy is the fixed policy of the republican party.

We cordially approve the attitude of President Roosevelt and congress in regard to the exclusion of Chinese labor and promise a continuance of the republican policy in that direction.

The civil service law was placed on the statute books by the republican party, which has always sustained it, and we renew our former declaration that it shall be thoroughly and honestly enforced.

We are always mindful of the country's debt to the soldiers and sailors of the United States and we believe in making ample provision for them and in the liberal administration of the pension laws.

We favor the peaceful settlement of international differences by arbitration.

We commend the vigorous efforts made by the administration to protect American citizens in foreign lands and pledge ourselves to insist upon the just and equal protection of all our citizens abroad. It is the unquestioned duty of the government to procure for all our citizens, without distinction, the rights of travel and sojourn in friendly countries and we declare ourselves in favor of all proper efforts tending to that end.

Our great interests and our growing commerce in the Orient render the condition of China of high importance to the United States. We cordially commend the policy pursued in that direction by the administration of President McKinley and President Roosevelt.

We favor such congressional action as shall determine whether by special discriminations the elective franchise in any state has been unconstitutionally limited and, if such is the case, we demand that representation in congress and in the electoral colleges shall be proportionately reduced as directed by the constitution of the United States.

Combinations of capital and labor are the results of the economic movement of the age, but neither must be permitted to infringe upon the rights and interests of the people. Such combinations, when lawfully formed for lawful purposes, are alike entitled to the protection of the laws, but both are subject to the laws and neither can be permitted to break them.

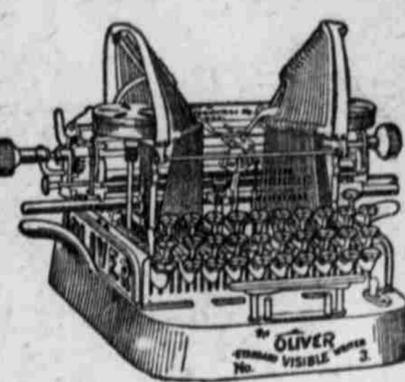
The great statesman and patriotic American, William McKinley, who was re-elected by the republican party to the presidency four years ago, was assassinated just at the threshold of his second term. The entire nation mourned his untimely death, and did that justice to his great qualities of mind and character which history will confirm and repeat.

The American people were fortunate in his successor, to whom they turned with a trust and confidence which have been fully justified. President Roosevelt brought to the great responsibilities forced upon him a clear head, a brave heart, an earnest patriotism and high ideals of public duty and public service. True to the principles of the republican party and to the policies which that party had declared, he has also shown himself ready for every emergency and has met new and vital questions with ability and with success.

The people have confidence in his justice and in his public career, which enabled him to render personally an inestimable service to the country by bringing about a settlement of the coal strike, which threatened disastrous results at the opening of the winter of 1902. Our foreign policy under his administration has not only been vigorous, but in the highest degree successful. The complicated questions which arose in Venezuela were settled

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