

## SOME POLITICAL HISTORY

Recollections of Gen. Grant's Attempt to Secure a Third Term.

## CONTEST IN THE CONVENTION

Movements on the Political Chess-board Before and After the Nomination—The Garfield-Hancock Campaign.

The unwritten code of the republic decrees that the president shall serve but two terms. Since Washington set the example—an example strengthened by the refusal of Jefferson and Jackson to permit their names to be used in connection with a third presidential term—there has been but one attempt to overcome this tradition. None but a man of tremendous popularity, one capable of arousing tumultuous enthusiasm, could have been brought forward as a candidate for a third term. General Grant, the triumphant and magnanimous leader of the civil war, was this and more. At the close of his second term in 1876 there had been talk of nominating him for another term. Stimulated by rumor, several state conventions adopted resolutions declaring that as a matter of principle two terms should be the limit for any president.

General Grant himself stopped the movement by writing a public letter announcing that he was not and would not be a candidate. Shortly after his successor's installation, he started on his famous tour of the world, returning to the United States in September, 1879, landing at San Francisco. His trip across the continent to his home in Galena, Ill., was a triumphal march. So warm was his welcome and so loud the popular acclaim that some of the foremost men in the republican party, including the United States senators, Conkling of New York, Cameron of Pennsylvania and Logan of Illinois, combined in an effort to make him a presidential nominee. By the end of the year he was recognized as a candidate for a third term. When asked as to his own attitude in the matter he refused to answer, saying that his lifelong habit was to make his decision when time for decision had arrived. In April, 1880, he returned from a trip to Cuba and Mexico. Soon after, at an immense meeting held in Chicago, it was formally announced that he would accept the nomination if it were made in the right way.

A Memorable Convention. The republican convention, the first of four held to name a presidential ticket in 1880, met in Chicago from June 2 until June 8. It was made memorable by the arduous struggle which this decision of General Grant's developed. It was also remarkable for its oratory, its duration, and its many brilliant, able men.

James G. Blaine had been an unsuccessful candidate for the republican nomination in 1876. His brilliant personality made him the idol of his adherents, who were determined that this time he should win the coveted honor. General Grant's friends were as equally determined. For fixity of purpose and unwavering fidelity, they have never been paralleled, either before or since. On the first ballot they gave Grant 204 votes. On the thirty-sixth, when Blaine's forces had rallied to the support of the compromise candidate, General James Abram Garfield of Ohio, they lined up as faithful as the Swiss guard of Marie Antoinette, and on that final ballot General Grant received two more votes than on the first.

At the opening of the convention three-fourth of the delegates were divided into two compact and hostile forces, skillfully managed, admirably organized, each confident and eager for victory. Roscoe Conkling, senator from New York, was the recognized leader of the Grant forces, as Eugene Hale of Maine was the leader of Blaine.

John Sherman of Ohio had a strong following. General Garfield, at the head of the Ohio delegation, was pledged to his support and had been chosen to make the speech nominating Sherman in the convention. He did not, therefore, represent the Blaine forces, but in the parliamentary contests of the convention he was the recognized leader of the opposition to Grant.

Stars in the Drama. Others who played an important part

in the drama were General Logan, George F. Hoar, J. Donald Cameron, Preston K. Plumb, William Pitt Kellogg and Blanche K. Bruce, all members of the senate. Among the delegates about to enter that august body were Benjamin H. Harrison of Indiana, Eugene Hale and William F. Frye of Maine, William J. Sewall of New Jersey, Omar D. Conger of Michigan, Dwight M. Davis of Minnesota and Philo Sawyer of Wisconsin. General Garfield already held his commission as senator-elect. His colleagues on the Ohio delegation were Governor Foster and former Governor Dillion. Five of General Grant's cabinet were delegates to the convention—Boutwell of Massachusetts, Crenshaw of Maryland, George H. Williams of Oregon, Edward Pierrepont of New York and Senator Cameron. Other names which have not been forgotten, though nearly three decades have passed, are Chester A. Arthur of New York, Colonel Quay of Pennsylvania, William E. Chandler of New Hampshire, Emory E. Storrs of Illinois, Governor Wainwright of Louisiana and Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts. Blaine in his "Twenty Years of Congress" says that probably no convention since the one which nominated Henry Clay had contained so many eminent men.

When the convention assembled Senator Hoar was selected to serve as both temporary and permanent chairman. The rights of congressional districts to select their delegates had been indirectly affirmed in the republican national convention of 1876, when the unit rule was overridden and the right of each individual delegate to cast his own vote was established. Yet, in 1880, it was part of the Conkling plan to have the states vote as units. General Garfield was chairman of the committee on rules and was one of the strongest protestants against the attempt to enforce the unit rule. It was largely through his efforts that the attempt failed. In several states, among them Illinois, there were contests between delegates elected on the district plan and those selected at a state convention, regardless of the district. In each of these contested cases the convention accepted the majority report of the credentials committee recommending that delegates chosen under the district plan be seated. The report of the committee on rules, as submitted by Garfield, contained an amendment designed to protect the vote of the individual delegate which was a final blow at the unit rule.

Conkling's Attitude. Conkling's attitude toward those not supporting Grant was arrogant and insulting. At the opening of the third day he offered a resolution "that in the sense of the convention every member is bound in honor to support its nominee, whoever the nominee may be, and that no man should hold a seat who is not ready to so agree." In this, he insinuated that unless he pledged the Blaine men would bolt if Grant were nominated. The resolution was adopted with three dissenting votes from West Virginia, whereupon Senator Conkling offered another resolution practically declaring that by their action in not supporting the resolution, these three delegates had forfeited their votes in the convention. The discussion between one of these three, Campbell, editor of the Wheeling Intelligencer, caught a flag and, wrapping it about her, stirred the crowd to a new frenzy of enthusiasm for the man from Maine.

Blaine was first placed in nomination by Mr. Joy of Michigan, seconded by Mr. Frye of California and Frye of Maine. Conkling's nominating speech for Grant was delivered with great dramatic effect. Even today its opening sentence is subject of controversy. Whether he said, "I would ask whence comes our candidate, our sole response shall be, 'He has come from Appomattox.' And its famous apple tree," or used the simpler, stronger sentence, "When asked whence comes our candidate, we say from Appomattox," is still a moot question. Finer than this in matter and form, but less dramatic, was the speech of Henry B. Payne of Ohio, Stephen J. Field of California, William R. Morrison of Illinois, Thomas A. Hendricks of Indiana, Samuel J. Tilden of New York, Horatio Seymour of New York and Samuel J. Randall of Pennsylvania. For vice president, William H. Englehard of Indiana, member of congress during Buchanan's administration, was nominated by acclamation. Richard M. Elshoff of Ohio had been suggested as a candidate for the nomination, but his name was withdrawn. The platform, compact and energetic, denounced centralization and sumptuary laws, called for honest money, consisting of gold and silver and proper convertible into coin on demand, a tariff for revenue only, public lands for actual settlers, civil service reform, a free labor, subordination of the military to civil power, free ships and no discrimination in favor of transportation lines, corporations and monopolies. It declared that the democratic party was the friend of labor and asked that Chinese immigration be carefully guarded. The democratic congress was praised for its thrift and the republican administration criticized. Samuel J. Tilden, the candidate of 1876, who had refused to let his name go before the convention, received merited mention.

Minor Gatherings. The prohibition convention of 1880 was held at Cleveland, O., with Rev. M. Miner as chairman. Twelve states were represented by 142 delegates. Neal Dow of Maine was nominated for president and A. M. Thompson of Ohio for vice president. In its platform this year the party ignored the industrial and financial problems which supplied issues for the dominant parties, and confined itself to a discussion of the liquor question, a criticism of both the democratic and republican parties and an appeal that the ballot be granted to women.

The greenback-labor convention met in Chicago from June 3 to June 11, 1880. Rev. Gilbert de la Matye of Indiana was the temporary, Richard Trevellick of Michigan the permanent, chairman. James B. Weaver of Iowa was nominated for president on the first ballot. Other names presented were Hendrick B. Wright of Pennsylvania, Stephen D. Dillaye of New York, Benjamin F. Butler of Massachusetts, Solon Chase of Maine, Edward P. Allis of Wisconsin, Alexander Campbell of Illinois. On a vote for a candidate for vice president, B. J. Chambers of Texas received 603 votes and Alanson M. West of Mississippi 211, whereupon Mr. Chambers was unanimously nominated. The greenback platform declared that all money should be issued by the government and not by banking corporations; that bonds should be refunded, legal tender currency substituted for national bank notes, the national banking system abolished and the unlimited coinage of silver established by law; that labor should be protected, the eight-hour law of congress enforced; the sanitary condition of industrial establishments placed under control, competition of contract convict labor abolished; a bureau of labor statistics established; factories, mines and workshops inspected, employment of children under 14 forbidden and wages paid in cash. It agreed with the republicans and democrats in asking that public land be kept for actual settlers and that Chinese immigration be regulated and asked for a regulated income tax and a congressional regulation of interstate commerce.

A Close Contest. Though there were four tickets in the field, the contest was between the democrats and the republicans. The issue was the tariff and its effects on manufacturing industries and the laborer. The republicans claimed that the protective policy they stood for had given prosperity to the nation. The democratic platform declared for a tariff for revenue. General Hancock issued a letter in which he seemed, to a portion of the press, to explain away the revenue reform plank by making the tariff a local issue.

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ballot gave Grant 204, Blaine 284, Sherman 28, Edmunds 24, Washburne 20, Windom 19 and Garfield 1. As chairman of the New York delegation, it fell to Conkling to announce the vote of his state. Having failed to force the unit rule on the convention and thus give New York's seventy votes to Grant, he studiously stung the anti-Grant delegates by his formula: "Two of the New York delegates, Mr. Chairman, are said to be for Mr. Sherman; seventeen for Mr. Blaine; fifty-one are for Grant." And they were for Grant as were all his supporters from start to finish, going down with him to the last ditch.

On the thirty-fifth ballot, taken Tuesday, Grant reached his highest number of votes—312. The number needed for a choice was 275. On the thirty-sixth ballot Garfield, who had fifty votes on the thirty-fifth, was given the votes of the delegations which had been voting for Sherman and Blaine.

This record of thirty-six ballots has yet to be surpassed in a republican national convention. On ten of these thirty-six ballots, Garfield received one vote; on eight of them he had two. On the thirty-fourth ballot his small contingent had increased to seventeen, which was augmented to fifty on the thirty-fifth. On the thirty-sixth, he was nominated by 299 votes.

Around the Victor. Blaine in his book says: "The banners of the states were caught up and massed in a waving circle around the head of the predestined and now chosen candidate, who sat pale and motionless in his seat with the Ohio delegation. The scene of enthusiasm and exultation long delayed the final announcement, which gave Garfield 299 votes, Grant 204, Blaine 28, Washburne 20, Sherman 2. The nomination was immediately made unanimous on motion of Mr. Conkling."

For vice-president, Chester A. Arthur of New York, a friend of Conkling, was nominated on the first ballot. Other places in nomination for the office were filled by Washburne of Illinois, Marshall Jewell of Connecticut, Horace Maynard of Tennessee, Edmund J. Davis of Texas, Blanche K. Bruce of Mississippi, Thomas Settle of Florida, and Stewart L. Woodford of New York. The platform adopted declared the republican party to be in favor of a protective tariff of national aid to education, of a thorough reform of the civil service, and opposed to the support of sectarian schools.

Democratic Leaders. The democratic national convention met at Cincinnati, O., June 22, and completed its work June 24. So quickly was it organized with George Healey of Ohio as temporary, and John W. Stevenson of Kentucky as permanent, chairman, that balloting was begun on the second day. On the second ballot General Winfield Scott Hancock of Pennsylvania was nominated for president. Before the result of the second roll call was announced, states which had voted for other candidates, the strongest among them being Thomas F. Bayard, senator from Delaware, changed to Hancock, giving him 70 votes, leaving but two to Bayard, thirty to Thomas A. Hendricks of Indiana, one to Samuel J. Tilden of New York and one to Horatio Seymour of New York.

The list of names presented to the convention for the presidential nomination included Winfield S. Hancock of Pennsylvania, Thomas F. Bayard of Delaware, Henry B. Payne of Ohio, Stephen J. Field of California, William R. Morrison of Illinois, Thomas A. Hendricks of Indiana, Samuel J. Tilden of New York, Horatio Seymour of New York and Samuel J. Randall of Pennsylvania. For vice president, William H. Englehard of Indiana, member of congress during Buchanan's administration, was nominated by acclamation. Richard M. Elshoff of Ohio had been suggested as a candidate for the nomination, but his name was withdrawn. The platform, compact and energetic, denounced centralization and sumptuary laws, called for honest money, consisting of gold and silver and proper convertible into coin on demand, a tariff for revenue only, public lands for actual settlers, civil service reform, a free labor, subordination of the military to civil power, free ships and no discrimination in favor of transportation lines, corporations and monopolies. It declared that the democratic party was the friend of labor and asked that Chinese immigration be carefully guarded. The democratic congress was praised for its thrift and the republican administration criticized. Samuel J. Tilden, the candidate of 1876, who had refused to let his name go before the convention, received merited mention.

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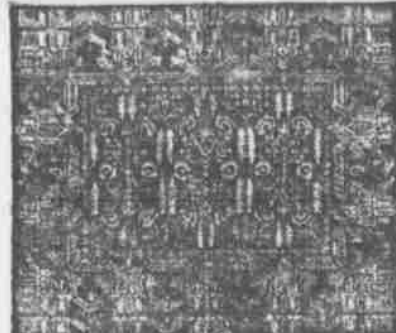
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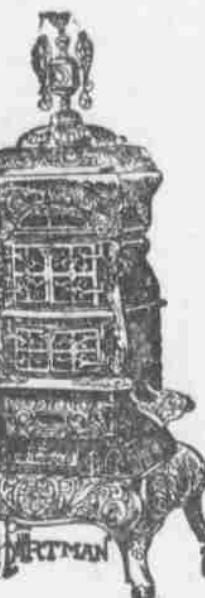


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HARTMAN'S  
1414-1416-1418 DOUGLAS STREET

Two weeks before election, the famous Morey letter, a forgery purporting to have been written by General Garfield and designed to represent him as approving Chinese immigration, was scattered broadcast. It cost General Garfield the electoral votes of Nevada and New Jersey and five of the six votes of California. He carried every northern state, receiving 211 electoral votes. General Hancock carried every southern state, receiving 155 electoral votes. The election took place November 2, 1880. Popular vote of 2,218,251. Garfield received 4,440,241; Hancock, 4,444,952; Weaver, 308,515, and Dow, 16,305.

Johnson Decker with Sparks. Negro Champion Sports a Bunch of Diamonds Worth Twenty Thousand Dollars. There's an illustrated phenomenon in town which is puzzling Broadway astronomers. It was visible around San Juan Hill and in the region of "Baron" Wilkins' hostility at times last night. As there are no comets or heavenly derelicts for the earth to bump into now—except Halley's, and that's several million miles away yet—the brilliant light caused much speculation. Like a meteor, the peculiar object, which to many had the shape of a human being, flitted and flashed from Thirty-fifth street up to Harlem and back, dazzling the eyes and whirling by like a shooting star.

Persons who shied to one side as the lit-up object passed describe it as a gigantic being, with legs and arms like a man, but wonderfully disguised in raiment of colors which sparkled and twinkled in fearful energy. Great lights of some 20,000-candle-power, possibly, gleamed from the front of the creature, casting effulgent rays on colors in stripes and bars and squares in wondrous blend. No such spectacle ever bewildered the Great White Way before.

During one short interval it moved slowly and with measured step as it passed in and out of Hammerstein's, but usually these immense lights were described as illuminating the way for a fast automobile, whose front lights were hardly visible in the expanse of illumination as it approached.

As it seemed to center about the negro district persons labeled it the San Juan Aurora Borealis.

This phenomenon, later identified as Jack Johnson, has totally eclipsed all previous illuminated human bodies. Of the \$24,000 the negro bonanza got for pounding some sense into Stanley Ketchel's head about \$20,000 has gone into diamonds—real ice, too. A ten-karat searchlight on his neckle furnishes him with both gas and electricity; a studded watch-chain and chain gives him light to see the second hand at any time of the night, and he can glance at his ebony-hued, maricured "pinkie" any moment of a day and see that no speck of dust mars their rounded though rugged grandeur. There are four of these finger bulbs.

The "ice" packed around his time apparatus could be exchanged for a steamboat line. Of course, there is nothing against John "Brady" Johnson, or "Pinny" Johnson—as a hoodlum, hailed the distinguished colleague of Booker T. Washington yesterday—for the precedent was set by Mr. Connors at a reception in the home of a Buffalo society matron the night when the statesman remarked at the table:

"Well, I notice them what's got 'em wear 'em."

So "Diamond Jack" has all the liberty to sport his illuminations. Bob Fitzsimmons had one in a front tooth until the Cornishman went broke and a dentist took the gem out while Bob slept.

Johnson's row of glittering gold teeth fully illuminated by the Tiffany bobs, gives you the general idea of a jack-o'-lantern head on a Halloween night. It is to be regretted that Jack didn't live two centuries ago, when he could have decorated himself with more personal satisfaction, likely.

They used to use the ears and nose to fit pretty things into, and certainly such

additions to Jack's person now would not detract from his princely Zulu countenance. In fact, Jack could easily look like a Senegambian Salome with one or two additions.

One of these fine days a great big bear—not the catallina—will hit "Diamond Jack," and he'll lose a lot of his aurora borealis—New York World.

WIESE GETS IOWA CONTRACT

South Omaha Man Secures Government Job on Fort Dodge Federal Building.

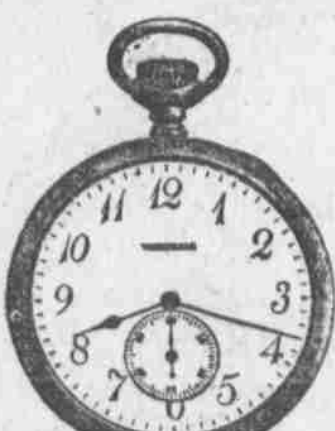
(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—Bids were opened today at the Treasury department for the construction of an extension to the public building at Fort Dodge, Ia., the lowest bidder being H. H. Wiese of South Omaha, at \$110,000. Other bidders were: General Construction company, Milwaukee, \$118,000; Hazelton & Wallin, Chicago, \$118,000; Paul Reisen Sons, Milwaukee, \$118,777; J. W. Miller, St. Paul, \$121,000; W. J. McAlpin, Dixon, Ill., \$127,000. The secretary of the interior has rejected all bids for the construction of the Pathfinder dike in connection with the North Platte irrigation project in Wyoming and Nebraska because they were too high and has authorized work carried on under small contracts.

URGES JUDGE COXE FOR HONOR

Vice President Sherman Proposes New Yorker as Peckham's Successor.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Vice President Sherman came to Washington today to lay before the president the name of Judge Alfred C. Cox of the Utica circuit court as a candidate for the position on the supreme bench vacated by the death of Justice Peckham. Judge Cox is a nephew of the late Senator Conkling.

## Waltham Watches



## About Buying a Watch

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Waltham, Mass.

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