

SOUND-MONEY, DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION.

A CALL having been issued by leading sound-money Democrats throughout the country for a National Convention, to be held September 2, 1896, between eight and nine hundred delegates assembled at Indianapolis on that date.

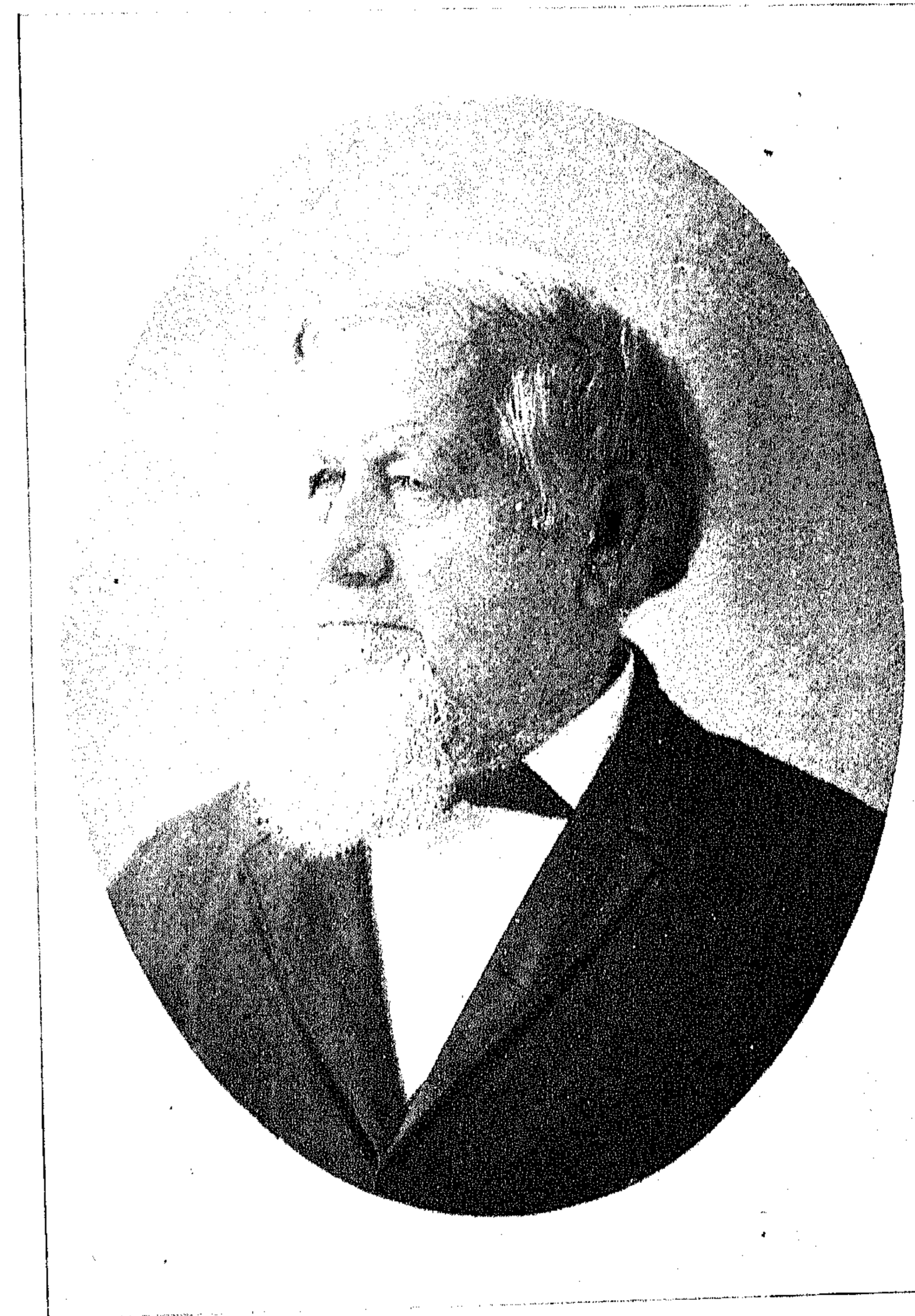
Senator Palmer, of Illinois, rose at half past 12 and struck the gavel. Thereupon most of the delegates jumped to their feet, shouting and waving their State banners, ending the demonstration, which was brief, by three cheers. The white-haired Senator said this was the first Democratic National Convention of the year, and that He who knows all things might look into the hearts of the assembly and discern that its purposes were patriotic, and that it was fitting to call upon the omnipotent power for guidance, and presented Bishop White, of the Diocese of Indiana, who offered a brief prayer.

After the prayer, for which the delegates rose, Senator Palmer announced that the secretary would read the call for the Convention, and Ex-

Congressman Outhwaite, of Ohio, who came forward for the purpose, was recognized by a breezy burst of hand-clapping. This applause punctuated every telling point of the call during its reading, particularly the statement that the Chicago platform was not entitled to the support of the true Democrats. In reading the reference to "Jefferson, Jackson and Cleveland," Mr. Outhwaite put particular stress upon Mr. Cleveland's name, and brought the delegates to their feet with a tribute of loud and hearty cheers.

After the call of States, Senator Palmer introduced Mr. Bremen, of Wisconsin, who read the report of the National Committee. The recommendation that the Rules which governed the last Democratic Convention, "which was held in 1892," should govern this Convention was cheered to the echo.

The Report recommended Ex-Governor Flower, of New York, for temporary chairman and John R. Wilson, of Indiana, for temporary secretary. The mention of Ex-Governor Flower's name was the signal for a burst of applause, which swelled into a war cry. Ex-Governor Jones, of Alabama, and George F. Peabody, of Massachusetts, escorted the distinguished New Yorker to the stage. Senator Palmer shook hands with the Ex-Governor, who bowed in response to the demonstration. Gov. Flower's speech was often interrupted by applause.



HON. JOHN M. PALMER

Mr. Flower declared at the outset that the gathering before him was "notice to the world that the Democratic party has not yet surrendered to Populism and anarchy." He asserted that the principles of Democracy as expounded by Jefferson are not yet dead. He asserted the uninterested motives of those who are participating in this movement, and affirmed the true Democracy of himself and every other man in the Convention. The speaker declared the Chicago Platform to be dangerous in its tendencies and influence, and referred to some of the silver leaders as "the radicals of the French revolution." "The real issue of this campaign," he said, "is an issue of patriotism." He declared the nominee of the Chicago Convention to be a "fit representative of the revolutionary forces behind him—ambitious, unsteady and unsafe. An untried man," he continued, "a demagogue, a word juggler, he perhaps will represent the restless mob from which he rose, and with characteristic recklessness does not hesitate to appeal to base human passions in order to attract votes. That in this incendiary role, standing as he professes to stand, on principles as undemocratic as those of Herr Most, he should deserve by any conception of party regularity the support of true Democrats is past comprehension, and explainable only by ignorance of the man and his platform or disloyalty to to genuine party faith."

After an announcement that the committees would meet immediately, the Convention at 2.08, on motion of Mr. Curtis, of New Jersey, took a recess until 4 o'clock. At the assembling of the

Convention in the afternoon the committee on permanent organization recommended Senator Caffrey, of Louisiana, for permanent chairman, John R. Wilson, of Indiana, secretary, and Walter Kessler, of Indiana, sergeant-at-arms. It also reported on order of business. The Report also recommended that the organization of the party be made permanent and that the committee be empowered to call future Conventions. This portion of the report met with a warm response from the delegates.

The report was adopted, and Mr. Bullitt, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Lawlor, of Minnesota, escorted Senator Caffrey, of Louisiana, to the platform. In assuming the gavel Senator Caffrey made a strong speech. Without being ornate Mr. Caffrey is an impressive speaker, clear in logic, bold in statement, emphatic in gesture. He referred occasionally to his manuscript. The Convention listened closely and frequently interrupted by applause. Senator Caffrey began by returning thanks for the honor done him and then proceeded to deal with the political situation. In this connection he said :

“Charged by our party with the function of ministering in its Temple of Faith and teaching the people its true doctrines, our priests have deserted its altars, broken its shrines, and taught false doctrines to the people. We now enter the sanctuary of the temple and take possession of the

Ark of the Covenant of our faith, which we will hereafter vigilantly guard, protect and defend. We will purify its desecrated altars and rebuild its broken shrines.

“And, lest the hearts of the people be stolen away from true Democratic faith—the faith of our fathers and founders—we must separate from our brethren who have wrought this evil, and from those who have followed their evil teachings. We cannot follow them in the road they have taken, for their feet are swift to destruction, and their way is the way of death. The ties that bound us were as strong as hooks of steel and we part from them in sorrow.

“The declarations of the Chicago Platform are ‘open, palpable and flagrant’ departures from all that Democracy has stood for. They assail the money standard of the country and declare for the inflated and depreciated standard of free silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. They assail the right and power of the Executive to enforce the law and to protect property under the control and in the custody of the Federal courts in any State of the Union; they attack the integrity of a co-ordinate branch of the government; they declare that the function of issuing paper money is to be exclusively exercised by the government itself; they assail the right of the citizen to contract for payment in any legitimate commodity; they declare that the obligations of the government, for which gold was received and for the payment of which in the same coin the national faith is pledged, may be paid in a depreciated coin, and we declare that each and every one of these attacks and de-

clarations is un-Democratic. They are an assault upon the Constitution, the time-honored principles of the Democratic party and the distinguished patriot and statesman who has twice led it to the only victories it has achieved in thirty-six years."

"It is," continued Senator Caffrey, "the Ishmael of platforms. It raises its hand against some of the principles of both parties and all the principles of the Democratic party. It is begotten of the unhallowed union between Democracy, Populism and Anarchy. And that the Scriptures may be fulfilled it will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the face of the earth. The credulity and cupidity of some of our good citizens have been played upon and aroused by artful fanatics and cunning demagogues. There are, however, many honest, patriotic and intelligent men who cling with all the strength of conviction to the specious but unsound theory of bimetallism at 16 to 1. If their theory is denounced as false and pernicious, no imputation is cast upon their character nor any slur upon their intelligence.

"Fellow-citizens, we are not traitors to our party. We are in the house of our fathers. We cannot be driven from it. We will defend the the honor of our country and the integrity of our principles as long as life endures. We can neither be ousted from our political heritage nor forced into the ranks of our old-time adversary. We intend to preserve intact, unimpaired and unsullied, by and through the organization which we perfect today, the Democracy of Jefferson, Jackson, Benton and Cleveland. We propose to furnish a refuge and an abiding place for such of our brethren as,

shocked and grieved at the betrayal of our principles at Chicago, are inclined to go to the Republican camp.

"We sound a bugle call throughout the land for all Democrats to rally for the support of government and law, for the honor of their country and for the maintenance and preservation of their creed, its memories and its glories. If not heeded now, it will be in the near future. And then those clouds which lowered over our political horizon and darkened our councils will take flight; those opposed eyes which lately met in party conflict will all be turned one way, and a united and triumphant Democracy will march on to victory under the aegis of the Constitution and under the precepts of the apostles of our faith."

At 5:30 the Convention adjourned until next morning at 11 o'clock.

Permanent Chairman Caffery appeared on the stage at exactly the hour to which the Convention adjourned, and was given a round of applause. When General Buckner, of Kentucky, entered, the Convention rose to its feet and gave him three cheers. By this time every seat in the hall was occupied, and the galleries were crowded. Fully 4,000 people were in the hall. There was much pent-up enthusiasm which found its escape valve in noisy demonstration at every opportunity presented.

Mr. Ochs, of Tennessee, mounted a chair and offered a resolution expressing the deep loss the

574 SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

national Democracy felt in the death of Massachusetts' brilliant ex-Governor, William E. Russell. The resolution was adopted by a rising vote, and Dr. Everett, of Massachusetts, at the request of the Bay State delegation, took the stage and responded feelingly in behalf of Massachusetts, to this great tribute to her distinguished son.

At exactly two o'clock Senator Vilas, chairman of the committee on resolutions, mounted the stage and read the platform to the Convention. Senator Vilas made a speech, saying that the platform needed no argument. He smilingly moved its adoption, and it was adopted by a rising vote.

The Platform.

The following is the platform adopted by the Democratic Convention :

"This Convention has assembled to uphold the principles upon which depend the honor and welfare of the American people, in order that Democrats throughout the Union may unite their patriotism to avert disaster from their country and ruin from their party.

"The Democratic party is pledged to equal and exact justice to all men of every creed and condition; to the largest freedom of the individual, consistent with good government; to the preservation of the Federal Government in its constitutional vigor and to the support of the States in all their just rights; to economy in the public expenditures; to the maintenance of the public faith

SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. 575

and sound money; and it is opposed to paternalism and all class legislation.

"The declarations of the Chicago Convention attack individual freedom, the right of private contract, the independence of the judiciary and the authority of the President to enforce Federal laws. They advocate a reckless attempt to increase the price of silver by legislation to the debasement of our monetary standard, and threaten unlimited issues of paper money by the government. They abandon for Republican allies the Democratic cause of tariff reform to court the favor of protectionists to their financial heresy.

"In view of these and other grave departures from Democratic principles, we cannot support the candidates of that Convention, nor be bound by its acts. The Democratic party has survived many defeats, but could not survive a victory won on behalf of the doctrine and policy proclaimed in its name at Chicago.

"The conditions, however, which make possible such utterances from a national convention are the direct result of class legislation by the Republican party. It still proclaims, as it has for years, the power and duty of government to raise and maintain prices by laws, and it proposes no remedy for existing evils except oppressive and unjust taxation.

"The National Democracy, here reconvened, here, therefore, renews its declaration of faith in Democratic principles, especially as applicable to the conditions of the times. Taxation, tariff, excise or direct, is rightfully imposed only for public purposes and not for private gain. Its amount is

576 SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

justly measured by public expenditures, which should be limited by scrupulous economy. The sum required by the Treasury is determined by the appropriations made by Congress. The demand of the Republican party for an increase in tariff tax has its pretext in the deficiency of revenue which has its causes in the stagnation of trade and reduced consumption, due entirely to the loss of confidence that has followed the Populist threat of free coinage and depreciation of our money and the Republican practice of extravagant appropriations beyond the needs of good government.

We arraign and condemn the Populistic conventions of Chicago and St. Louis for their co-operation with the Republican party, increasing these conditions which are pleaded in justification of a heavy increase of burdens of the people and a further resort to protection. We, therefore, denounce protection and its ally, free coinage of silver, as schemes for the personal profit of a few at the expense of the many, and oppose the two parties which stand for these schemes as hostile to the people of the Republic, whose food and shelter, comfort and property are attacked by higher taxes and depreciated money. In fine, we reaffirm the historic Democratic doctrine of tariff for revenue only.

"We demand that henceforth modern and liberal policies toward American shipping shall take the place of our imitation of the restricted statutes of the eighteenth century, which were abandoned by every maritime power but the United States, and which to the nation's humiliation have driven

SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. 577

American capital and enterprise to the use of alien flags and alien crews, have made the stars and stripes an almost unknown emblem in foreign waters, and have virtually extinguished the race of American seamen. We oppose the pretense that discriminating duties will promote shipping; that sham is an invitation to commercial warfare upon the United States, un-American in the light of our great commercial treaties, offering no gain whatever to American shipping, while greatly increasing ocean freights on our agricultural and manufactured products.

"The experience of mankind has shown that by reason of their natural qualities gold is the necessary money of the large affairs of commerce and business, while silver is conveniently adapted to minor transactions, and the most beneficial use of both together can be ensured only by the adoption of the former as a standard of monetary measure, and the maintenance of silver at a parity with gold by its limited coinage under such safeguards of law. Thus is the largest possible enjoyment of both metals gained with a value universally accepted throughout the world, which constitutes the only practical currency, assuring the most stable and especially the best and safest money for all who earn a livelihood by labor or the produce of husbandry. They cannot suffer when paid in the best money known to man, but are the peculiar and defenceless victims of a debased and fluctuating currency, which offers continued profits to the money changer at their cost.

"Realizing these truths, demonstrated by long public inconvenience and loss, the Democratic

party, in the interests of the masses and of equal justice to all, practically established by the legislation of 1834 and 1853, the gold standard of monetary measurement and likewise entirely divorced the government from banking and currency issues. To this long established Democratic policy we adhere and insist upon the maintenance of the gold standard and of the parity therewith of every dollar issued by the government, and are firmly opposed to the free and unlimited coinage of silver and to the compulsory purchase of silver bullion. But we denounce also the further maintenance of the present costly patchwork stream of national paper currency as a constant source of injury and peril.

“We assert the necessity of such intelligent currency reform as will confine the government to its legitimate functions, completely separated from the banking business, and afford to all sections of our country a uniform, safe and elastic bank currency under government supervision, measured in volume by the needs of business.

“The fidelity, patriotism and courage with which President Cleveland has fulfilled his great public trust, the high character of his administration, its wisdom and energy in the maintenance of civil order and the enforcement of the laws, its equal regard for the rights of every class and every section, its firm and dignified conduct of foreign affairs, and its sturdy persistence in upholding the credit and honor of the nation are fully recognized by the Democratic party, and will secure to him a place in history beside the fathers of the republic.

“We also commend the administration for the

great progress made in the reform of the public service, and we indorse its effort to extend the merit system still further. We demand that no backward step be taken, but that the reform be supported and advanced until the un-Democratic spoils system of appointments shall be eradicated.

“We demand strict economy in the appropriations and in the administration of the government.

“We favor arbitration for the settlement of international disputes. We favor a liberal policy of pensions to deserving soldiers and sailors of the United States.

“The Supreme Court of the United States was wisely established by the framers of our Constitution as one of the three co-ordinate branches of the government. Its independence and authority to interpret the law of the land without fear or favor must be maintained. We condemn all efforts to degrade that tribunal or impair the confidence and respect which it has deservedly held.

“The Democratic party has ever maintained and ever will maintain the supremacy of law, the independence of its judicial administration, the inviolability of contract and the obligations of all good citizens to resist every illegal trust, combination and attempt against the just rights of property and the good order of society, in which are bound up the peace and happiness of our people. Believing these principles to be essential to the well-being of the public, we submit them to the consideration of the American people.”

The Nominations.

Arkansas deferred to Michigan, which State sent to the platform Lemuel L. Kilbourn, a soldierly-looking man, who was to name Senator Palmer, of Illinois. He said he had arisen to present a gentleman who, he believed, embodies in the most stalwart form, the principles of this platform; referred to his choice as a "magnificent statesman," and turning to the Senator, who was sitting on the stage, with a bow, named John M. Palmer, of Illinois. This climax was received with a cheer, delegates waving their flags and shouting, "Palmer, Palmer." The venerable Senator seized his hat from a table, and in the face of this boisterous compliment, beat a retreat upon the rear of the stage, disappearing into the wings. John J. Enright, one of Michigan's younger men, broke through parliamentary bounds to second the nomination in a ringing speech, declaring that once the Democracy had chosen the immortal hero of Gettysburg, Winfield S. Hancock, because she was satisfied with his record, and would now place the banner in Palmer's hands because she was satisfied with his record.

General Bragg Named.

California gave her time to Barr W. Jones, of Wisconsin, to eulogize the favorite son of that State, General Bragg. "The hero of fifty battles,"

the commander of the Iron Brigade, was glowingly described, Mr. Jones not omitting to apply to him the aphorism which he had made famous by its application to the President, that he was loved because of the enemies he had made. In conclusion, Mr. Jones exhorted the Convention to let the brave old general lead the battle.

On the first ballot Senator Palmer was nominated by a vote of 757½ to 124½ for General Bragg, who immediately moved to make the nomination unanimous.

After the enthusiasm provoked by the unanimous selection of General Palmer, had in a measure subsided, General Caffrey, the chairman, said: "The secretary will call the roll of States for Vice President." Thereupon the secretary called "Kentucky," and a great laughing cheer went up. General Buckner was alone in the field for second place. The band struck up "My Old Kentucky Home," and the banners were brought down to Kentucky's row, while the delegates were joining in the chorus.

W. F. Broder, of Russellville, Ky., came to the platform and formally placed in nomination "Kentucky's Grand Old Man." M. D. May, of Ohio, moved the nomination of Buckner by acclamation. A young Bay State delegate said that Massachusetts came from the home of Daniel Webster to the home of Henry Clay and seconded the motion.

582 SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

One big shout went up, and Senator Caffrey had but to make the formal announcement of the selection of Mr. Buckner by acclamation when the work of the convention was practically done. A second time the standards marched the aisles, while the band played "Yankee Doodle."

LIFE OF HON. JOHN M. PALMER.

Senator John McAuley Palmer, who will soon enter upon his eightieth year, has always classed himself as a Democrat. As a matter of fact, this is the third time he has revolted from strict party lines. He is a man of strong convictions and independence of thought. He differed with his party on the slavery question and the conduct of the war. For this reason he acted with the Republicans from 1856 to 1872, when he bolted the renomination of General Grant and joined the ranks of the Independent Republicans. Greeley failing of election, he took up with Democracy again.

His political career has been an eventful and striking one. In 1868 he was elected Governor of Illinois on the Republican ticket, and in 1888 was defeated for the same office as a candidate on the Democratic ticket. In 1891 he was elected United States Senator by a Democratic farmer legislature, and his term will expire within a year. He had a brilliant military career, and rose to the

SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. 583

rank of Major-General during the war, and was accorded first place among the civilian soldiers.

Senator Palmer's chief characteristic is his independence. He is not a politician in the accepted sense of the word, for he does not hesitate to antagonize a friend if he thinks the latter is in the wrong. His individuality is virile and strong and his self-reliance marked. Never in the history of the State of Illinois has there been a man against whom the arrows of criticism have been turned more viciously, nor a man who has heeded them less. That he should be a leader in such a movement as the fight for honest money is not at all surprising—in fact, it would be a surprise to those who know him were he taking any other stand. In matters of principle past friendships and affiliations are as nothing to him; he marks out his course and pursues it without deviation.

Fifty Years Before the People.

Senator Palmer, as a man, a statesman, a soldier, a neighbor, a lawyer and a politician, is the same. For more than fifty years he has been before the people, and it has never been difficult to find out just where he stood on any vital question. His open and above-board honesty has made him a lot of trouble, and at four-score he is a poor man, but this does not bother him in the least. He has made a fight for principle all his life, and it is a

matter of much gratification to him that this last great battle for honest money as against free silver and repudiation should be in so good a cause. He has always been an honest-money man, and advocated a hard-money platform as far back as 1874. He has never hedged on this question, but has been outspoken at any and all times, although all around him politicians have been flying to the woods, and hedging on all sides.

This grand old man of the West, as he has been so often denominated, has a good, sound body as a frame for his sound and healthy mind. He is within one inch of six feet in height, weighs considerably over 200 pounds, and does not show his age within twenty years. No man seeing him for the first time would say he was over sixty, and those who know him and his powers of endurance predict that he will live to round out a century. His teeth are sound, for a dentist has never been called into requisition; his white hair is not sparse, except at one point on the top of his head; his eyes are bright and keen; his skin is unusually smooth for a man of his age, and his flesh firm, his body well set upon the legs, every motion betokening power, both physical and mental.

The Senator has been twice married, his ten children having been born of the first wife. Four of these are dead, and the six living are two sons and four daughters. The first Mrs. Palmer was

Melinda Ann Neely, whom he married in 1842, when she was but fourteen years of age. At this time the future statesman was a struggling young lawyer in the village of Carlinville, and the bride's parents were very poor, but that made no difference. It is said the couple went to housekeeping with but \$50 worth of household goods, and yet the happy husband considered himself well off, with a dainty bride and that much furniture. Of the children of the marriage, the younger son, Lewis J., is a lawyer at Rock Springs, Wyo.; the elder, John Mayo, is an attorney in Chicago, well thought of and possessing a good practice. One daughter, Mrs. Crabbe, is a postmistress in a town in the State of Washington; Mrs. Maggie E. Jayne lives in Springfield, Ill., and Mrs. Matthews resides in the village of Carlinville, where she was born.

General Palmer's War Record.

The first Mrs. Palmer died in 1885, and two years later the Senator married Mrs. Hannah L. Kimball, of Springfield, Ill., a daughter of J. L. Lamb, a wealthy citizen of the capital city. Mrs. Palmer is her husband's junior by fully thirty-five years, is a woman of refinement and social position, and is the Senator's constant companion.

Senator Palmer was one of the most famous "civilian" generals during the war of the rebellion. He was elected colonel of the Fourteenth Regiment

of Illinois Infantry, and was promoted to be brigadier general of volunteers in November, 1861. In March and April, 1862, he commanded a division under General Pope, in the operations against New Madrid and Island No. 10, and later took part in the operations against Corinth. He took part in the battle of Murfreesboro in December, 1862, and in January, 1863, was promoted major general of volunteers. General Palmer took part in the operations against the Confederate army commanded by General Bragg on its retreat via Tullahoma to Chattanooga. He commanded a division in the battle of Chickamauga, and was promoted to the command of the Fourteenth Army Corps in October, 1863; took part in the operations around Chattanooga, including the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, in November, 1863, and in 1864 commanded the Fourteenth Corps in the Atlanta campaign, and was relieved at his own request August 4, 1864.

LIFE OF HON. SIMON B. BUCKNER.

Simon Bolivar Buckner is one of the few surviving officers who held high command during the civil war. He was a lieutenant-general in the armies of the Confederacy, and had previously distinguished himself in the war with Mexico. Twenty-two years after peace had been restored he entered politics and was elected Governor of

Kentucky, since which time he has wielded a personal and political influence in his State second to that of no other man.

General Buckner was born in Hart County, Kentucky, in April, 1823. His father, Aylett H. Buckner, was an iron manufacturer, of Virginia parentage, and built and operated for many years the Clay Furnace, a foundry on Green River, eight miles above Munfordville. He was also an extensive farmer and owned the lands on which his son now resides. Some time before 1840 he moved to Muhlenberg County, where he continued in the iron business.

Simon received a cadetship to West Point, and was graduated from the military Academy in 1844. He was assigned to the Second Infantry, and from August, 1845, until May, 1846, was assistant professor of ethics at West Point. At the breaking out of the war with Mexico he solicited a post at the front, and after some tedious delay was sent to the scene of operations.

His Promotion was Rapid.

He was brevetted first lieutenant for gallantry at Contreras and Churubusco, where he was wounded. For his services at Molino del Rey he was made a captain. He took part in the capture of the city of Mexico. In August, 1848, he was appointed assistant instructor of infantry tactics at

West Point, and remained there until March 25, 1855. He held various army commands in the West, after superintending the construction of the Chicago Custom House, in 1855.

He raised a regiment of Illinois volunteers that year for the proposed Utah expedition, but it was not mustered into service. Shortly before 1860 he resigned his commission and returned to Kentucky. He took up his residence in Louisville, and reorganized the State Guard, being made its commander and Adjutant General of the State. He was the idol of the State troops, and when he determined to cast in his fortunes with the South, the members followed him almost to a man. September 12, 1861, he issued an address to the people of the State, calling upon them to take up arms against "the usurpation of Abraham Lincoln," whose troops had already poured over the neutral ground.

Intense excitement was created by this move, and loyal citizens of Louisville offered a reward of \$5,000 for his capture. He occupied Bowling Green and threatened Louisville, which was then, or soon after, occupied by General Sherman. When Fort Henry was captured he evacuated Bowling Green and withdrew to Fort Donelson.

It was by his conduct here that General Buckner earned the high regard which he has ever since held in the hearts of the Confederates. He

was then a young brigadier, and was third in command in Fort Donelson. He led his brigade in the battles of February 13, 14 and 15, 1862, and opened a way by which the whole army might have escaped had they not been ordered to retire by Generals Floyd and Pillow, his superiors.

The "Unconditional Surrender."

At Fort Donelson, on the night of the 15th, a conference was held by the three generals, and Floyd and Pillow determined to escape by way of the river.

At the conference, upon learning that General Johnson's army had already reached Nashville, General Buckner said it would be wrong to subject the army to a virtual massacre, when no good could result from the sacrifice, and that the general officers owed it to their men, when further resistance was unavailing, to obtain the best terms of capitulation possible for them. General Floyd intimated that "the Yankees" were anxious to capture General Pillow and himself, and proposed to depart. Pillow also persisted in leaving, and General Buckner was told to consider himself in command. General Buckner, after the departure of Floyd and Pillow, ordered the troops back to their positions, and opened communication with General Grant, whose blunt reply of "no terms except unconditional and immediate surrender"

590 SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

became a watchword of the war. This historic incident is forever associated with General Buckner's name.

He remained over a year in prison, most of the time at Fort Warren, Boston, but was exchanged in August, 1862. Then he was placed in command of the first division of General Hardee's corps of Bragg's army in Tennessee. For his gallantry and skill he was made major-general and assigned to the third division of the Confederate armies. He distinguished himself at the battles of Stone River, Murfreesboro' and Chickamauga, and was made a lieutenant-general. He surrendered Kirby Smith's army at Baton Rouge.

General Buckner refused the most flattering offers from President Lincoln to go with the Union, although the most of his property consisted of real estate in Chicago. To save this property from confiscation he deeded it to his brother-in-law, Lieutenant Kingsbury, of the Federal army. Kingsbury was mortally wounded on the field of battle, but made a nuncupative will by which he transferred the property back to General Buckner. It was claimed by Mrs. Kingsbury and her children, and it was not until after many years of struggle in the courts that it was restored. This property consisted of two large lots, which had originally cost but \$80, but which the growth of Chicago rendered extremely valuable. The great fire de-

SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. 591

stroyed the improvements, and it was only by able management that General Buckner saved himself from ruin.

He Enters Journalism.

Immediately after the war General Buckner entered journalism, and for a year was the editor of one of the New Orleans journals. Next he was editor of the *Louisville Courier*, Walter N. Halderman being the proprietor, but when that paper was combined with the *Journal*, to form the *Courier-Journal*, he left the staff and engaged in business pursuits.

In 1883 General Buckner was persuaded by his friends to make the race for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, which he lost by a narrow margin to Congressman Knott. Four years later he was unanimously nominated and made the race against the present Governor, William O. Bradley, whom he defeated by 17,000 votes. His administration was so able and upright that he left the office the most popular citizen of Kentucky. While Governor he was also chosen to represent his county in the Convention which framed the State's present constitution.

When General Grant was dying upon Mount McGregor, General Buckner was travelling in the East with his second wife, and called upon him. During their conversation, carried on by General Grant in writing, as he was unable to speak, the

592 SOUND-MONEY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

former President made use of the expression that he had lived to see what he had so long wished to see—complete reconciliation between the North and South, adding that it would have come sooner had it been left to the soldiers who fought the battles.

Though now seventy-three, General Buckner carries himself as sturdily as most men of sixty. He still looks the soldier he has been half his life, and is very fond of walking over the hilly country in which he lives. His hobby is road-making, and he has frequently served as road overseer since he has been Governor.