

REMARKS OF CHARLES M. MCGARRIGAN.

Meeting of the State Convention at Wilkesbarre.

LIVELY CONTEST FOR SEATS.

Defeat of the Philadelphia "Ring" Representatives as Delegates.

NOMINATIONS FOR STATE OFFICES.

For Judge of the Supreme Court, James R. Ludlow, of Philadelphia; for State Treasurer, F. M. Hutchinson, of Allegheny.

THE KEYSTONE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

It Endorses That of the Ohio Democracy, Opposes Railroad Combination to Enhance Transportation, Urges a Cautious Return to Specie Currency, Asserts that the Democracy Favors All Progress and Improvement, Denounces Official Corruption and Salary and Back-Pay Grabbing, and Holds the Republican Party Responsible for All Governmental ills.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., August 27, 1873.

It would be utterly impossible for any one, amid the exciting incidents of this hour, to imagine that the spirit of the old democracy were dead.

The looker-on, no matter how passive or conservative he might be, could not help catching the glow of that enthusiasm which, under the conditions of a thousand failures and the humiliation of a thousand defeats, calls from the disorganized ranks of a long and bitter war this multitude of earnest and determined men in defence of a primitive platform in hostility to political corruption, no matter whether found in the ranks of the party in the capricious and so-called departures of their own, for the promotion of ancient principles and for the restoration of pure and successful antecedents.

Had the last marvellous campaign, instead of rallying many of those now present under colors which they failed to recognize, and in behalf of a platform which but few could comprehend, planted a democratic standard upon that eminence from which floats the banners of its only rival, this gathering could not have been more remarkable than it is, nor could any circumstance have drawn into closer union and sympathy the cultured and respected delegates who throng these streets to-day.

"As Pennsylvania goes so goes the Union," and so from amid the wreck and carnage of war, from the ranks of the unbought and untried Keystone democracy, come these men from every section of the State to meet each other, with all the spirit and power which were their own, for the first time, to fight for the principles which they believe will attend their proper and conscientious interpretation. The democratic headquarters in Philadelphia last night were sombre and dark, and for the moment those headquarters are here. Such is also the case with similar organizations throughout the entire State.

This peculiarly quaint town, generally deserted in the winter months, has never, even in its liveliest summer season, experienced a more exciting occasion than this. All the railroads converging here by each train bring in new visitors, and over these thoroughfares shume the feet of hurrying hundreds. Flags float from the hotels, and every public place seems aglow with enthusiasm and good cheer. This is no ordinary gathering, the delegates do not hurry hither as billings commodities, disinterested in the issues and glad to get away at the conclusion of their task. On the contrary, a universal seriousness rests upon their faces, as though each one felt as if he held the fate of his party in his hand, and that the stand which he took must be the stand of democracy in the future.

During the latter part of last week many hurried to Wilkesbarre in anticipation of this day, and a respected party leader, such as Dr. Andrew Neberger, of the State, and you know that the Philadelphia Ring were strenuously working for its ultimate success ever since. Mr. Samuel J. Randall arrived last night at the Wyoming Hotel, and with him came a number of his political associates.

REMARKS ABOUT CANDIDATES.

Sumner's name, that Mr. Charles R. Bucklewell, beyond a doubt, support William Ewell, of Columbia county, for Supreme Judge, though, as I may say, Mr. Randall very properly decided all remarks leading in this direction, and will be drawn after the first ballot.

The Philadelphia caucus appointed for last night postponed its meeting, and the delegates gathered here, its object seems to be to get Judge Ludlow upon the third ballot as Philadelphia's special choice.

Concerning who shall be State Treasurer no two delegates agree. The fight will be very earnest and exciting, and while I am writing the delegates arrived, and a word in this affair will be without its proper representation.

A FULL REPRESENTATION.

There never was a larger democracy in representation in the State than is assembled here this morning.

Hon. Samuel J. Randall called the Convention to order, and as the roll was called every single county responded.

During the reading of the roll very many exciting scenes occurred, and it was not until the roll was called, which, I doubt, can be definitely settled to-day. When the third representative district was called Alderman James Colquhoun rose, and very properly decided all remarks leading in this direction, and will be drawn after the first ballot.

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as state and in a spirit of sympathy and good feeling.

Mr. MCGARRIGAN, of Philadelphia, then arose and nominated his fellow townsman, Dr. Andrew Neberger, as Chairman of the Convention, and by unanimous popular acclamation that gentleman was chosen.

AN OLD-FASHIONED DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

On the 27th of August the Convention reviewed the history of the democratic party and introduced many of its former conquests and glories. He said that the democratic party had the glorious prestige of the democracy, and that proper regard for its principles none could have greater or more signal success. He said that no measure productive of good could ever have been passed in the United States save by democratic legislation, and that no inch of territory had ever been added to our country, either by purchase or conquest, save by the aid of the democratic party, the humble representative. He said that it had increased internal development at home, displayed the country's flag with dignity and honor abroad, and had ever supported the weak against the strong. He concluded his address amid hearty and loud applause.

Mr. H. R. Wright, of Luzerne county, offered a resolution that committees, consisting of thirty members each, be appointed for permanent organization, and for the construction of the proper resolutions.

THE PHILADELPHIA STAFF.

In lieu of the Philadelphia Ring, Philadelphia, proposed that a committee of seven be organized to decide upon contested seats, save in the city of Philadelphia, in which city all contests should be referred to the judges.

Mr. MCGARRIGAN, of Philadelphia, was strenuously opposed, and in the midst of the extreme confusion General Rumford, of Harrisburg, left his chair, and, accompanied by Colonel Hopkins, of Allegheny county, moved that the claim of the contestants be settled at once, to the satisfaction of all parties.

Mr. Barr stepped from his seat and commenced to address the Convention. Up beside him sprang at once Mr. Moore, of Luzerne county, who at once called the gentleman to order.

"By what assurance," cried Mr. Moore, "do you arise to address this body?" "I respond," Mr. Barr replied, "to my credentials."

"Credentials! where obtained?" "From the Democratic Convention of Allegheny county," Mr. Barr returned.

"Your statement," said Mr. Moore, "is an impudent and an equivocal lie."

At this moment every man was upon his feet at the same time, and every soul in the house seemed to join in the debate. The excitement was tremendous, and for the moment the Convention forgot its own business, and its own duties.

"Shall Philadelphia decide her own contests, or shall these contests be decided by the Convention?" Mr. Moore asked.

General Rumford's proposition was the favorite. Mr. MCGARRIGAN, seeing his points losing weight at once, demanded that Philadelphia should decide for herself, and that the delegates should be divided by a vote of above 140 to 10. This closed the morning session. The Convention meets again this afternoon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention reassembled tardily. The chairman did not enter the hall until over half an hour after the time named. When it was called to order, the delegates were in a state of confusion.

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can I understand how any man who regards honor and self-respect can stand under a banner which could either be persuaded to do it, or to justify it after it is done. (Immense cheering.)

Mr. MCGARRIGAN—Will you yield to me? Mr. MOORE—No.

Mr. MCGARRIGAN—Then I rise to a question of privilege, and I say these gentlemen did vote for the platform.

Mr. MOORE—That is not a question of privilege; it is a question of fact.

Mr. MCGARRIGAN—Mr. Moore further condemned the salary grab, and then Mr. SPEER, rising in his seat, said:—If it is necessary that I should be sacrificed I will give way and will move to amend the motion of Mr. MCGARRIGAN, of Philadelphia. This was accepted and business was resumed.

After the balance of the report on organization by the choice of Vice Presidents and Secretaries, the Convention proceeded to nominations for permanent organization.

THE PHILADELPHIA STAFF.

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