JOHN W. DANIEL.

of a national convention are largely formal, and it is seldom they have any serious bearing on the convention's after work. When the temporary officers have been elected and the committees have been appointed to pass on the credentials and to propose a permanent organization and rules for the convention, a recess will be taken until the next day, and the crowd will straggle back to the big hotels to march again and cheer again and to hold heated discussions on the currency question in the corridors of the hotels.

Familiar Faces.

There will be many familiar faces missing in the corridors and on the floor of the convention. Maryland's sphinx, Senator Gorman, has hesitated. Brice, too, had announced his intention of staying away, but he has reconsidered since. Ex-Governor Francis of Missouri, who made a losing fight for the administration in his state, and Mafflit, the national committeeman from that state, will be on hand. Francis is the administration candidate for temporary chairman of the convention. Hill of New York, who, as a modest candidate for the nomination, staid away four years ago, will be on hand to make a fight for "sound money" to the last ditch. Whitney, famous as the "Fool Killer" of the convention of four years ago, has decided to lead in the "sound money" cause. Bourke Cockran, who dropped out of politics through his quarrel with the Tammany leaders, will not be in Chicago. He is in Europe nursing a sprained ankle.

Pugh of Alabama will lead the silver forces from his state; Jones of Arkansas, fresh from a triumphant canvass for reelection, will help to make the platform.

After the permanent chairman has been chosen and the permanent roll of the convention has been made up will come what promises to be the real contest of the convention. And it is very likely to be fought out in one of the committee rooms. "What shall the platform be?" is the most interesting and most important of the questions to be determined by the delegates, and as state delegations are well united in most cases, the temper of the committee on resolutions will be the temper of the convention. It will not be like the convention of four years ago in which the friends of Mr. Cleveland told the committee on what platform he would be willing to run. Nor will the convention likely do what that convention did when it repudiated the tariff plank brought in by the committee and adopted that ringing declaration beginning, "Republican

J. C. S. BLACKBURN.

protection is a fraud." If there are any compromises to be made on the platform, they will likely be made in the committee. But the fight for consideration will be carried by the minority into the convention hall and the secrets of the committee room will leak out there, so that the country will know just how much has been conceded to gold or to silver, as the case may be.

And then the convention will ballot for its candidates. The candidates will fit the platform this year if present conditions are not deceptive. It has happened that the platform was made to fit the candidates.

The Democratic convention of 1896 promises to be one of the most exciting in the history of the party—even more exciting than that of 1892. It will abound in exciting incidents. The convention of four years ago had only one.

A Mammoth Convention.

On the night of June 23-4, 1892, the Democratic national convention made its nomination for the presidency under conditions which have not been paralleled in the history of national conventions. To understand them thoroughly one must have a clear comprehension of what had preceded the convention, and this is a matter of history so fresh in most American minds that it needs but a brief rehearsal. Grover Cleveland had been president for four years, and had been defeated at the polls for re-election after he had received a unanimous nomination at the St. Louis convention of 1888. David B. Hill of New York, who was lieutenant governor when Cleveland was elected to the presidency first, was a candidate for the presidential nomination. He had been one of the New York delegation to the convention of 1884 when Cleveland received his first nomination, and he had urged Cleveland on the delegates to that convention as the choice of New York, and therefore the strongest candidate the Democracy could put before the country. The promise made by Hill in 1884 had been kept. New York had given Cleveland its electoral vote, and he had been elected—the first Democrat to reach the presidential office since the war. Hill had gained such control of the Democratic party in the state of New York—or at least of that branch of the Democratic party which is in the majority, and therefore recognized as the Democracy of the state—that he knew he could have the indorsement of the delegates to the state convention, and, having that, he expected to go before the convention of 1892, as Cleveland had gone before the convention of 1884, as the candidate of the state of New York. In order to clinch his hold on the convention, however, he had it called at an early date, and because it was called so early his enemies said he was trying to take "snap" judgment, and bitterly opposed the act. Then they made the fact that the convention was called so early an excuse for calling another convention, known as the antisnap convention, which met at Syracuse in the fall of 1891. Thus New York had two full sets of delegates at Chicago—one the delegates of the regular Democracy and the other the delegates of the "antisnappers," as they were known. The 72 delegates of the regular Democracy were instructed to vote as a unit for David B. Hill. The other delegates were instructed to vote for Grover Cleveland.

William C. Whitney.

William C. Whitney of New York, who had been Mr. Cleveland's secretary of the navy, was the manager of Mr. Cleveland's campaign. He was well adapted for the difficult work before him because while in sympathy with the object of the "antisnappers" he was a member of the regular Democracy and of Tammany Hall, its representative in the city of New York. By the advice of Mr. Whitney, the "antisnappers" gave up a contest for the New York seats in the convention—a contest which Mr. Cleveland's personal followers in the convention might have decided in their favor, but which would have been so manifestly unfair that it would have split the Democracy of New York hopelessly.

Before the convention met, the most earnest efforts were made to unite the delegates opposed to Mr. Cleveland on some other candidate. The Hill men were prepared to abandon their candidate—with his own consent—if they could find any one on whom they could unite enough votes to nominate him. At one time the Hill delegates believed they had found a compromise candidate in Arthur P. Gorman of Maryland; and in fact they claimed afterward that they had had Mr. Gorman's consent to the use of his name at one time and that he had withdrawn from the contest suddenly in fear of defeat. Whatever the facts are as to Mr. Gorman, the New York delegation went into the convention hall on the afternoon of June 23 at 5 o'clock knowing that unless they had time to make a combination of some kind before morning they were beaten and Mr. Cleveland would be nominated. Every mention of Cleveland's name was the signal for a tremendous display of enthusiasm. When Mr. Hill was mentioned there were cheers from the partisans of the New York man, but there was silence in the galleries.

David B. Hill.

As midnight approached the nominating speeches were being made. There had been an attempt to adjourn earlier, but it had been shouted down by the galleries and voted down by the delegates. The beginning of the nominating speeches had been greeted with frenzied enthusiasm by the galleries. The people there showed no impatience when the speeches in behalf of Mr. Cleveland were being made. They listened with patience which gave way to enthusiasm whenever the name of their candidate was mentioned. But when Hill's name was placed before the convention the galleries showed themselves impatient of the delay. There were cries of "Vote!" and cheers and hisses and such uproar as made speaking well nigh impossible. Still the Cleveland men stuck steadily to their purpose, and every proposition to adjourn met with a vigorous negative.

The final speech for Mr. Hill—or rather against Mr. Cleveland—was to be made by Congressman Bourke Cockran, one of the ablest men in congress, known as a fine speaker and one who met usually with encouragement from his audiences. But the galleries were in no mood to listen to eloquence. John W. Daniel, senator from Virginia and one of Mr. Hill's partisans, had been howled down in disgraceful confusion, while the placid chairman, Mr. Wilson of West Virginia, beat a mild protest on the desk with his gavel. Mr. Cockran made a futile appeal to the convention to adjourn till the next morning. He was not well. He was hoarse, he said, and the tones of his voice and his whole bearing confirmed what he said. But the physical condition of one man or the comfort of a hundred was nothing to the partisans of Mr. Cleveland when it interfered with their programme. Besides, while Mr. Cockran was evidently unwell, might not his illness be exaggerated? Might not this plea be the last trick played by the opposition? No cry for quarter from any one of Mr. Hill's followers would avail. The fight was to be fought to the death, and that before morning.

It was half past 8 o'clock when Bourke Cockran walked down the aisle and took the platform. His hair was rumpled; his necktie was askew; his whole bearing was that of a sick and dispirited man. But when the cries of "vote" from the galleries began he turned on them so swiftly that those who knew Mr. Cockran saw there was life and energy in him still.

Mr. Cleveland's Nomination.

And so, with the galleries hushed to an unwonted silence, with the sullen beating of the rain echoing through the hall, with the dripping of the water that puddled on the floor, and with now and then an ominous muttering from the thunder that almost drowned the orator's voice, began the last desperate plea of the opponents of Mr. Cleveland. The rain was not more monotonous than the speaker's voice at first, the thunder not more sullen than his tones. But as he warmed up to his subject he brought to his aid every latent resource. His throat cleared, and his voice rang out to the farthest corners of the hall. And the argument to which the impatient galleries were forced to listen that night was such a masterful plea as few who sat there will ever listen to again.

And when this wonderful burst of eloquence was over—this speech which will be renowned in the history of convention oratory—why, then the convention nominated Mr. Cleveland on the

JAMES E. CAMPBELL.

first ballot with a total of 617½ votes against 114 for Hill; 103 for Boies of Iowa; 30½ for Gorman, and scattering votes for Stevenson, Morrison, Campbell, Carlisle, Pattison, Russell and Whitney.

And when the work was done and it was moved to make the nomination unanimous, Mr. Cochran arose from the midst of the delegation which had voted solidly for its chief and said, "Mr. Chairman, I want to call the attention of the convention to the fact that upon the motion to make the nomination by acclamation, New York votes aye."

And amid thunders of applause the convention broke up. It was 4 o'clock and the gray dawn was creeping up the horizon when 20,000 tired men filed out of the exits of the convention hall and made their way to hotels and lodging houses under the dripping skies.

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Of Interest to Witnesses.

Judge Metzger last week rendered a decision in which he rules that court witnesses are entitled to pay for the number of days they are in actual attendance at court.

The decision was rendered in the case of S. V. Border vs. the *Times* publishing company. It will be remembered that Mr. Border won the suit for wages against the *Times* company after which the company refused to pay Mr. Border's witness bill as made out, contending that the witnesses were not in attendance at court all the time, and therefore were entitled to pay for only one day.

The court in his decision Friday sustains this view of the case. He says: "It seems to us clear, after a thorough consideration of this question, that to entitle witnesses to fees there must be an actual attendance at court, and that they are only entitled to pay for the number of days they actually were in attendance. The weight of authority is strongly in favor of this position, and it is therefore ordered that the prothonotary re-tax the bill of costs in conformity with the opinion."

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Hay per ton	12 to $14
Potatoes per bushel,	.20
Potatoes, per bushel, new	1.00
Turnips " "	.25
Onions " "	.40
Sweet potatoes per peck	25 to .30
Tallow per lb	.4½
Shoulder " "	.10
Side meat " "	.10
Vinegar, per qt	.07
Dried apples per lb	.05
Dried cherries, pitted	.10
Raspberries	.12
Cow Hides per lb	.3½
Steer " " "	.05
Calf Skin	.80
Sheep pelts	.75
Shelled corn per bus	.50
Corn meal, cwt	2.00
Bran, "	1.00
Chop "	1.00
Middlings "	1.00
Chickens per lb new	.12
" " " old	.12
Turkeys " "	.12½
Geese " "	.10
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