

JUDGE PARKER ACCEPTS NOMINATION

Defines Issues of the Campaign and the Meaning of Democracy.

Esopus, N. Y., Aug. 10.—The speech of acceptance of Alton Brooks Parker in reply to the committee which notified him of his nomination for the presidency by the Democratic party is as follows:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee:

I have resigned the office of chief judge of the court of appeals in this state in order that I may accept the responsibility that the great convention you represent has put upon me without possible prejudice to the court to which I had the honor to belong or to the eminent members of the judiciary of this state, of whom I may now say as a private citizen I am justly proud.

At the very threshold of this response and before dealing with other subjects I must, in justice to myself and to relieve my sense of gratitude, express my profound appreciation of the confidence reposed in me by the convention. After nominating me and subsequently receiving a communication declaring that I regarded the gold standard as firmly and irrevocably established, a matter concerning which I felt it incumbent upon me to make known my attitude so that hereafter no man could justly say that his support had been secured through indirection or mistake, the convention reiterated its determination that I should be the standard bearer of the party in the present contest. This mark of trust and confidence I shall ever esteem as the highest honor that could be conferred upon me—an honor that, whatever may be the fate of the campaign, the future can in no degree lessen or impair.

The admirable platform upon which the party appeals to the country for its confidence and support clearly states the principles which were so well condensed in the first inaugural address of President Jefferson and points out with force and directness the course to be pursued through their proper application in order to insure needed reforms in both the legislative and administrative departments of the government. While unhesitatingly in its promise to correct abuses and to right wrongs wherever they appear or however caused, to investigate the several administrative departments of the government, the conduct of whose officials has created scandals, and to punish those who have been guilty of a breach of their trust; to oppose the granting of special privileges by which the few may profit at the expense of the many; to practice economy in the expenditure of the money of the people and to that end to return once more to the methods of the founders of the republic by observing in disbursing the public funds the care and caution a prudent individual observes with respect to his own, still the spirit of the platform assures conservative instead of rash action, the protection of the innocent as well as the punishment of the guilty; the encouragement of industry, economy and thrift; the protection of property and a guarantee of the enforcement for the benefit of all of man's inalienable rights, among which, as said in the Declaration of Independence, are "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Liberty, as understood in this country, means not only the right of freedom from actual servitude, imprisonment or restraint, but the right of one to use his faculties in all lawful ways, to live and work where he will and to pursue any lawful trade or business. These essential rights of life, liberty and property are not only guaranteed to the citizen by the constitution of each of the several states, but the states are by the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States forbidden to deprive any person of any one of them without due process of law. Occasionally, by reason of unnecessary or impatient agitation for reforms or because the limitations placed upon the departments of government by the constitution are disregarded by officials desiring to accomplish that which to them seems good, whether the power exists in them or not, it becomes desirable to call attention to the fact that the people, in whom all power resides, have been entrusted by the medium of the constitution to limit the governmental powers conferred and to say to departments created by it: "Thus far shalt thou go and no farther." To secure the ends sought by people have by the constitution separated and distributed among the three departments of government—the executive, legislative and judicial—certain powers, and it is the duty of those administering each department to act so to preserve rather than to destroy the potency of the co-ordinate branches of the government and thus secure the exercise of all the powers conferred by the people.

Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to William C. Jarvis touching the perpetuity of our institutions, written many years after he had retired to private life, said, "If the three powers of our government maintain their mutual independence of each other, it may last long, but not so if either can assume the authority of the other." It must be confessed that in the course of our history executives have employed powers not belonging to them. Statutes have been passed that were expressly forbidden by the constitution, and statutes have been set aside as unconstitutional when it was difficult to point out the provisions said to be exceeded by their enactment. All this has been done with a good purpose, no doubt, but in disregard nevertheless of the fact that ours is a government of laws, not of men, deriving its "just powers from the consent of the governed." If we would have our government continue during the ages to come for the benefit of those who shall succeed us we must ever be on our guard against the danger of usurpation of that authority which resides in the whole people, whether the usurpation be by officials representing one of the three great departments of government or by a body of men acting without a commission from the people.

Impatience of the restraints of law as well as of its delays is becoming more and more manifest from day to day. Within the past few years many instances have been brought to our attention where in different parts of our beloved country supposed criminals have been seized and punished by a mob, notwithstanding the fact that the constitution of each state guarantees to every person within its jurisdiction that his life, his liberty or his property shall not be taken from him without due process of law.

In a struggle between employers and employees dynamite is said to have been used by the latter, resulting in the loss of life and the destruction of property. The perpetrators of this offense against the laws of God and man and all others engaged in the conspiracy with them should, after due trial and conviction, have had meted out to them the most rigorous punishment known to the law. This crime, added perhaps to others, led to the formation of a committee of citizens that, with the support of the military authority, deports from the state without trial persons suspected of belonging to the organization of which the perpetrators of the dynamite outrage were supposed to be members. In both cases the reign of law gave way to the reign of force. These illustrations present some evidence of

the failure of government to protect the citizen and his property, which not only justified the action of your convention in this regard, but made it its duty to call attention to the fact that constitutional guarantees are violated whenever any citizen is denied the right to labor, to acquire and to enjoy property or to reside where his interests or inclination may determine, and the fulfillment of the assurance to rebuke and punish all denials of these rights, whether brought about by individuals or government agencies, should be enforced by every citizen, and supported by every citizen. The essence of good government lies in strict observance of constitutional limitations, enforcement of law and order and rugged opposition to all encroachments upon the sovereignty of the people.

The foregoing suggestions but emphasize the distinction which exists between our own and many other forms of government. It has been well said in substance that there are but two powers in government—the power of the sword, sustained by the hand that wields it, and the power of the law, sustained by an enlightened public sentiment. The difference in these powers is the difference between a republic such as ours, based on law and a written constitution, supported by intelligence, virtue and patriotism, and a monarchy sustained by force exerted by an individual, uncontrolled by laws other than those made or sanctioned by him. One represents constitutionalism, the other imperialism.

The present tariff law is unjust in its operation, excessive in many of its rates and so framed in particular instances as to exact inordinate profits from the people. So well understood has this fact become that many prominent members of the Republican party and at least two of its state conventions have dared to voice the general sentiment on that subject. That party seems, however, to be collectively able to harmonize only upon a plank that admits that revision may from time to time be necessary, but it is so phrased that it is expected to be satisfactory to those in favor of an increase thereof and to those opposed to any change whatever.

Judged by the record of performance rather than that of promise on the part of that party in the past, it would seem as if the outcome in the event of its success would be to gratify the latter class. With absolute control of both the legislative and executive departments of the government since March 4, 1897, there has been neither reduction nor an attempt at reduction in tariff duties. It is not unreasonable to assume in the light of that record that a future congress of that party will not undertake a revision of the tariff downward in the event that it shall receive an endorsement of its past course on that subject by the people. It is a fact and should be frankly conceded, that should our party be successful in the coming contest we cannot hope to secure a majority in the senate during the next four years, and hence we shall be unable to secure any modification in the tariff save to that which the Republican majority in the senate may consent. While therefore we are unable to give assurances of relief to the people from such excessive duties as burden them, it is due to them that we should state our position as to in favor of a reasonable reduction of the tariff, that we believe that it is demanded by the best interests of both manufacturer and consumer, and that a beneficent revision of the tariff can be accomplished as soon as both branches of congress and an executive in favor of it are elected without creating that sense of uncertainty and distrust which has on other occasions manifested itself. This can be achieved by providing that such a reasonable period shall intervene between the date of the enactment of the statute making revision and the date of its enforcement as shall be deemed sufficient for the industry or business affected by such revision to adjust itself to the changes and new conditions imposed. So confident am I in the belief that the welfare of the people for a reform of the tariff is just that I indulge the hope that should a Democratic house of representatives and a Democratic executive be chosen by the people even a Republican senate may heed the warning and consent to give at least some measure of relief to the people.

The combinations, popularly called trusts, which aim to secure monopoly in those things that are employed upon the farm, in the factory and in many other fields of industry have been encouraged and stimulated by executive and legislative duties. These operate to furnish a substantial market in the necessities of eighty millions of people by practically excluding competition. With so large a market and highly remunerative prices the price has proved irresistible in a number of cases. All men must agree that the net result of enacting laws that foster such inequitable conditions is most unfortunate for the people as a whole, and it would seem as if our country had reached the effective remedy would be to appropriately modify the offending law. The growth of monopoly, of which complaint is justly made, cannot be laid at the doors of the courts of this country. The decisions of the supreme court of the United States, the court of appeals of this state and the courts of last resort in many other states warrant the assertion that the common law as developed affords a complete legal remedy against monopolies. The fact that they have multiplied in number and increased in power has been due not to the failure of the courts to apply the law when properly moved by administrative officials or private individuals, but to the failure of officials charged with the duty of enforcing the law to take the necessary procedure to procure the judgments of the courts in the appropriate jurisdiction, coupled with the fact that the legislative departments of some of our state governments as well as congress in the manner already referred to have by legislation encouraged their propagation. What is additional to the passage of a statute revising the tariff duties to a reasonable basis, is not so much other and different laws as officials having both the disposition and the courage to enforce existing law. While this is my view of the scope of the common law, if it should be made to appear that it is a mistaken one then I favor such further legislation within constitutional limitations as will give the people a just and full measure of protection.

It is difficult to understand how any citizen of the United States, much less a descendant of Revolutionary stock, can tolerate the thought of permanently denying the right of self government to the Philippines. Can we hope to instill into the minds of our descendants reverence and devotion for a government by the people while denying ultimately that right to the inhabitants of distant countries whose territory we have acquired either by purchase or by force? Can we say to the Filipinos, "Your lives, your liberty and your property may be taken from you without due process of law for all time,"

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An Animal Story For Little Folks

Why the Adjutant Kneels

"Please tell me, Mr. Adjutant, why do you kneel that way? I never see you standing up—you kneel the livelong day."

"Do you belong to any church? That you should kneel so much? Maybe you're lame or out of joint? If so, go buy a crutch."



"Why do you kneel that way? Why do your legs bend back like that? Can't you walk like a crane? Does standing with you not agree? Or does it give you pain?"

"Now, see here," said the Adjutant, "You bother me, you do. I sit and walk when'er I please. But what is that to you?"

"These legs of mine are handy quite, and they are bent this way because, you know, I've always been a sort of bird of prey."

—Atlanta Constitution.

A "Nervy" Dog.

The engineer and fireman of a Katy passenger train tell a rather good story. They were speeding along near Green Ridge, in Pettis county, the other day, when they struck a shepherd dog. They supposed they had killed him and thought nothing more of the incident, they say, until they reached Green Ridge. There the dog, which had been thrown upon the cow-catcher, was seen to jump down and trot away, carrying one of his legs in his mouth.—Kansas City Journal.

—We have a big lot of Ladies' \$2.50 and \$3 shoes, good sizes and width will close out at \$1.75.—Veager & Davis.

A Gala Day for Lewisburg.

The Susquehanna District association, Knights of the Golden Eagle, will celebrate their 16th anniversary in Lewisburg on Labor Day, Monday, September 5th. It will be a gala day as 5,000 visitors will be there, not including several lodges comprising the district in which is Lock Haven, Williamsport, Jersey Shore, Milton, Watsonstown, Bloomsburg, Catawissa, Danville, Millinburg, Millheim, Bellefonte, Spring Mills, Shamokin, Sunbury, and others.

—Ladies' \$2.50 Russian calf oxford now \$1.75.—Veager & Davis.



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A FEW OF THE NEW FALL NUMBERS IN

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