

JOHN GRIFFIN CARLISLE

THE SPEAKER UNANIMOUSLY RE-NOMINATED FOR CONGRESS.

A Masterly Address Showing the Enormity of Republican "Protection"—The Top of Carnegie's Coach a Poor Place from Which to View American Industrial Affairs.

The Democrats of the Sixth Kentucky District, in convention at Covington, renominated Mr. John Griffin Carlisle for Congress, accepted his nomination. As soon as the Chairman had formally announced the choice of the convention, there were loud cries for the nominee. The Speaker was escorted to the platform, the delegates and spectators cheering wildly meanwhile. When quiet had been restored Mr. Carlisle made an exceedingly graceful speech, which was frequently interrupted by applause, particularly when he mentioned the name of the President. Mr. Carlisle said:

"Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the convention. I scarcely know in what terms to thank the Democracy of this district for the action to nominate me. I was nominated for Congress in this hall, and since then the Democracy of this district has chosen me six times in succession to represent them in the House of Representatives of the United States. No man could be insensible to such devotion on the part of his friends and I accept your nomination. I feel most profoundly of gratitude and obligation to you and the people whom you represent.

"I accept your nomination and shall endeavor to meet as many of you as possible between this and the election, although my duties at Washington prevent me from giving much attention to my own district. I not only accept your nomination, gentlemen, but I endorse to the fullest extent the resolutions you have just adopted, except that part of them as relates to me personally."

"The great question before the country is the question of Federal taxation. It makes but little difference whether I am elected to Congress or not, but it is of overwhelming importance to the people that the next House of Representatives should be Democratic, and that the next President should be a Democrat also. The two political parties have nominated their candidates and made formal declaration of their principles. You will be called on next November to decide between them. The Republican party has chosen as its standard bearers Mr. Harrison, a respectable lawyer of Indianapolis, for President, and for Vice-President Levi P. Morton, a very rich banker in Wall Street. The Democratic party has selected the true and tried, the incorruptible Pre-ident who now fills the chair: the man who has brought the administration back to the ways of the Constitution and given to this people a clean, conservative, and faithful administration of the law. With him they have associated Mr. Thurman, who for many long years has been the best and truest representative of our Western Democracy.

"But it is not, gentlemen, my purpose to make a speech. Many of you want to return to your homes on the afternoon train, and many of you are anxious for a dinner. I want to call your attention, though, to the overwhelming importance of the great question which is now presented for the decision of the people, and I congratulate you on the fact that at last, after many long years of struggle, we have got this question fairly and squarely before the people. It is declared in the Democratic platform that unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation, and by that declaration the Democratic party will stand or fall in this contest.

"When President Cleveland was inaugurated on the 4th of March, 1885, he found on the statute books laws passed by Republican Congresses, in which the public money was being annually collected from the people nearly \$100,000,000 in excess of the actual necessities of the Government. He found a large surplus accumulated in the vaults of the Treasury, and that all the public debt in control of the Government except about \$196,000,000 of 3 per cent, bonds had been paid. What was to be done? Year after year some of us have struggled in the House of Representatives to secure a reduction of this enormous burden on the people, and have predicted that the time would surely come when this money would accumulate in the public treasury to an extent as to paralyze all the business enterprises of the country and bring ruin and disaster upon our industries and all engaged in them.

"We were not responsible for the existence of these laws, but we felt, as the representatives of the American people, that the responsibility rested upon us, in some measure at least, to see if it could not be remedied. We failed. The money went on accumulating in the Treasury at the rate of \$10,000,000 per month, and is still accumulating at that rate. The Secretary of the Treasury told me just before I left the city of Washington that the sum of revenue collected during the first fifteen years of the present session over and above the expenses of the Government was \$1,000,000. At the rate of several hundred thousand dollars every day and night, the sum of the people's money which they need in their business, is being poured into the public treasury, where it is not needed.

"To relieve the Treasury from this enormous amount and to prevent disaster to the business of the country the administration is compelled to purchase the outstanding bonds of the Government at an enormous premium. Within the few months past, \$1,000,000 of these bonds have been bought at a premium of over 4 per cent of some 25 to 28 cents on the dollar, on the 1% of the \$6, 7 and 8 cents, so that the bondholders is by reason of the unfortunate situation in which the revenue laws have been left, taking from the people millions and millions of dollars in excess of the amount which his obligations call for, and our friend, Mr. Harrison, in his recent letter of acceptance, says that this process should go on and the money should continue to be paid to the bondholder.

"Mr. Sherman, the former Secretary of the Treasury, has substantially the same ground and criticizes in a masterly manner the action of the present administration in depositing the revenue of this money in the national banks, so that it can be loaned to the people and go thus into the channels of trade. The records of the department will sustain the statement that while Mr. Sherman was Secretary of the Treasury he had at one time in a single national bank more money than this administration has to-day in all the national banks of the United States."

"Now the great question you are to decide is whether this system of taxation shall be continued indefinitely, whether the country will remain in the methods of taxation which prevailed in this country before the war. For the first time in the history of this country, so far as I know, the Republican party has substantially declared in its platform in favor of reducing the revenue by increasing the taxes. It declares that it deems it necessary to reduce the revenue by checking the imports of such articles as can be made here, and that is not sufficient it will repel the whole internal revenue tax on whisky rather than surrender any part of the protective system. This proposition is not new. You all know that the people of this country can be benefited individually and collectively by imposing taxes on themselves. It might as well be said that a man can make himself rich by picking his pocket as to say he can increase his wealth by imposing a tax on himself.

"In addition to the facts that this system of taxation is imposing enormous and unnecessary burdens upon the people; that it has accumulated in the Treasury large sums of money which ought to be in the hands of those who earn it by their labor and skill; it is the parent of trusts and combinations, a conspiracy to control products and prices of these same articles which the people are compelled to use."

"I see that Mr. Blaine, who seems to be the mouthpiece of the Republican party, has given quasi indorsement at least to these monopolies. I believe that when a man attends his own funeral he ought to be allowed to go at the head of the procession. But it seems that Mr. Harrison is not to enjoy this privilege. Mr. Blaine is the great central figure in this campaign, and he tells the people, in the face of the platform, in the face of the declarations of his political friends on the streets and neighbors, that these trusts are private affairs in which neither the President nor anybody else has any particular right to interfere."

"Why, my friends, larceny is a private affair—a very private affair—and yet it is not supposed improper to interfere with it by law. The highwayman who meets you on the public road and demands your money or your life is engaged in the transaction of a private enterprise, but still the law takes cognizance of his act and punishes

it as a crime. Now, gentlemen, Mr. Blaine has not been occupying a very good position from which to view the interests of the American workingman, farmer or consumer. The top of Mr. Carnegie's coach as it bowed along with its liveried outriders over the hills of Scotland, was a poor place from which to look at the interests of America. Nor are the festal halls of Cluny Castle a very good point either."

"Mr. Blaine had better stay at home or stay abroad—one or the other. Had he come here to his own country and mingled with the farmers with the consumers, with the laboring men of the land, he would have a far better opportunity to know what they desired than he could possibly have dining and wine with the aristocracy of Europe."

"It is said, gentlemen, that even if it does not produce burdens on the people, the cost of the country, the wages of our laborers must be maintained; therefore, high rates of taxation must be continued. If I had the time I think I could show to the satisfaction of every intelligent and candid man within the sound of my voice that the wages of labor are no more affected by the rate of duties upon imported goods than the yield of corn to the acre on your farm is affected by it. And one of the chief benefits of the system, in the estimation of Mr. Harrison, is the fact that the people do not know how much they are paying. When a man's money is taken away from him, he does not know what it is, and the people call it stealing. I will not, however, apply that term to the processes by which the Government of the United States abstracts this enormous sum of money from the pockets of the people who earn it and put it in the public treasury or the pockets of some one else, but I will say that it is the most dangerous form of taxation that could be devised, because it makes the people less vigilant of the expenditures of the public money, and lulls them to sleep while their substance is taken away."

"You will find an examination of the labor statistics from 1850 to 1860 that in some cases even as high as 10 per cent, more is paid for labor in the same occupation in Chicago than is paid in New York or Philadelphia. If the tariff regulated wages, I submit that the rates of wages would be the same; would be uniform in the same occupations throughout the United States under the same tariff."

"Another fact is that the greatest differences between the rates of wages paid here and the rates paid in European countries is found in those occupations which nobody pretends can be protected under the tariff laws. For instance, there is a decided difference between the rates of wages paid here and in Europe, plasterers, painters, stone and brick masons, teamsters, railroad employees, steamboat employees, and the rates of wages paid the same classes of workingmen in Europe than there is between the rates of wages here in your mills and cotton factories and the rates of wages paid in the same industries in Europe. The rates of wages paid in this country, too, in the unprotected industries, are larger on the average than the rates of wages paid in this country in the protected industries, and the difference between them, in this case, and those paid in Europe, in the other case, is still plainer—much plainer."

"Another fact is that since 1812, when the English corn laws were repealed and England entered on free trade, the rates of wages have increased from 50 to 75 and even as high as 100 per cent in some occupations. Can we trace that increase in this country during the same time?

"Another fact is that the rate of wages in the mechanical and manufacturing industries of the United States increased far more during what is called the free-trade period—from 1830 to 1860—than they ever have since that time.

"I simply state these facts without going into arguments for or against. I want to call your attention, though, to the overwhelming importance of the great question which is now presented for the decision of the people, and I congratulate you on the fact that at last, after many long years of struggle, we have got this question fairly and squarely before the people. It is declared in the Democratic platform that unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation, and by that declaration the Democratic party will stand or fall in this contest.

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"The administration, by its prudent and conservative, by its honest and faithful execution of the law in all parts of the country, and disaster which seemed to prevail in the minds of some of our opponents four years ago. No man can say that the affairs of the Government are not as secure in the hands of the great National Democratic party as in the hands of any other political party that ever existed in this country. This is our country as well as the country of our Republican friends. We have as much interest in its greatness, in its glory, as they can possibly have, and no matter what may befall us as a political party we will stand hereafter as we have stood in the past, through disaster and defeat, steadily and firmly in the principles which we believe to be right and for the best, interests of the people."

WHY.

A Few Questions for the Free Whisky Organs to Answer.

[From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.]

The free whisky organs have been invited several times to explain these things, but they don't respond.

Why Republicans in 1872 favored putting salt and pepper on the free list.

Why they have changed their minds.

Why in 1884 the Republicans favored reducing tariff taxes.

Why they have changed their minds.

Why the Republicans placed hides on the free list in 1872.

Why the tanning industry was not ruined thereby.

Why no pauper-made leather or shoes of Europe came over.

Why the leather industry prospered more than ever before.

Why more workmen were employed.

Why they got better wages.

Why, in short, the Republican tariff theory didn't work.

Why the price of wool has steadily declined under a protective tariff.

Why the reduction of the duty on wool in 1883 was followed by an advance in price instead of a decline.

Why the lowest point in the price of wool was reached under the highest tariff.

Why sheep in Ohio have decreased in number right along for seven years under a protective tariff.

Why the sheep of Ohio decreased over 200,000 in numbers during one year, 1882-3, when the highest wool tariff existed.

Why the price of wheat has declined right along under a protective tariff.

Why the price of corn has declined under a protective tariff.

Why wages have declined under a protective tariff.

Why strikes and bitter conflicts between employers and employees have been common under a protective tariff.

Why the workingmen of this country have lost more by tentfold in strikes and lockouts caused by attempts to reduce their wages under a protective tariff than they could have got out of the tariff tax, if they had received every cent of it.

Why the cost of living has increased under a protective tariff.

Why anarchy and socialism have developed under a protective tariff.

Why trusts have grown up under a protective tariff.

These are only a few of the many points that the people would like to have the advocates of the high-tariff blessedness explain. It may not be as easy as to howl about rebels and raves over the bloody shirt, and cry out that Great Britain is upon us, but would be vastly more sensible.

THE CAMPAIGN IN THE EAST.

Connecticut Democrats Very Hopeful—Republicans Not Getting Enough "Fat."

[New York special.]

The canvas in Connecticut is going on satisfactorily for the Democratic national ticket. B. C. Bachelder, a member of the State Central Committee of Connecticut, said this morning: "The outlook in Connecticut this year for Democratic success is of a very flattering character. It is a campaign of money against brains, the Democrats representing the brains and the Republicans the money."

Republican headquarters were in keeping with the weather—very gloomy. The gloom was caused by the absence of Senator Quay, who left for his Beaver County home last Saturday without notifying any of his colleagues except Mr. Clarkson. Mr. Quay has appealed to the party to elect him to the Senate, but his appeal has proved vain. During a recent visit to Washington he canvassed the Republican Senators and Congressmen personally. About \$5,000 was the result. The Republican millionaires did not respond.

Lieutenant G. W. Jones, said to-day that he had no doubt of the success of both the Democratic national and State tickets. "The farmers know their end," continued Mr. Jones, "and will vote for them. There is no doubt that during the first eight weeks of the national campaign the Democratic party will be alarmed about the situation, but great changes have taken place; the people have been thinking; for themselves; and it is not to be assumed that they will not be able to ascertain that tariff reform will be beneficial for the country. They know that the Republican arguments that the Mills bill means free trade are fallacies. New York is sure of Democratic success."

Hearty Betting on Cleveland.

[Pittsburgh special.]

Barney Forst is a broker on the Pittsburgh Oil and Stock Exchange. To-day he started the exchange by an offer to bet \$10,000 on Cleveland's election. He telegraphed his defiance to Oil City and New York. Some brokers think money has been placed in his hands by wealthy Hebrews for betting purposes.

DEMOCRATIC GAIN IN MAINE.

Representative Springer Cannot See Any Cause for Republican Rejoicing—Democrats Serene and Confident.

[Washington special to Chicago News, Ind.]

Representative Springer is very enthusiastic over the Maine election. He says:

"Maine is a stronghold of protection, and while the Republicans are bambooing the belief that they will win a great victory, I am confident that the Republican vote has increased 23 per cent, the Democratic vote has increased 52 per cent. Such a proportion of increase would give the Democrats an immense majority in the State of Maine. And when we can do this in a protection State like Maine, think what we shall be able to do when we come to those West.