

Parker Is As Good As Named Already

He Will Undoubtedly Be the
Democratic Nominee.

CLEVELAND FOR HIM

The Attention of Party
Leaders Now Turned
Toward the Candi-
date For Vice Presi-
dent and the Platform
—Roosevelt Said to be
Afraid of Parker.

Washington, April 6.—It is expert political opinion that to all intents and purposes Judge Alton B. Parker has been nominated for the Presidency of the Democracy of the country and discussion has now turned to his prospective running mate and the probable platform on which they will stand. Former Senator Charles A. Towne was here from New York today, and spent much time in discussion with Democratic leaders. To-night he alluded to Representative Williams, of Illinois, as a most likely candidate for Vice-President. The platform will contain no reference whatsoever to free coinage of silver, and it is altogether probable that the financial plank will contain little else than reference to the sovereignty of the government in issuing money, and the suggestion of some remedial legislation of minor importance. The conviction was borne in upon the Democratic mind that Judge Parker's nomination and election was sure when it became known that former President Cleveland had thus declared himself.

CLEVELAND'S ENDORSEMENT.

"The recent movement looking to a concentration upon Mr. Parker's candidacy afforded me the greatest possible relief and satisfaction, not only so far as my personal comfort is concerned, but as a Democrat anxious for my party's supremacy, and delighted with the prospect of its return to sanity and patriotic effort."

There was nothing offhand or accidental about Mr. Cleveland's declaration of approval of candidacy of the New York jurist, for the expression followed a season of deliberation, during which the former President took counsel of party leaders of national prominence who have for the past fortnight been laboring with astonishing effect to bring about an era of good feeling in party ranks.

NORTH CAROLINA SENATORS FOR PARKER.

To-day both the North Carolina Senators formally avowed their intentions to support Judge Parker. Having in mind the warning which Senator Platt, of New York, recently gave his party, Senator Overman said there could be no doubt about the Democratic party being on a "safe and dangerous basis," and that conditions appeared to point to the wisdom of nominating Judge Parker. The attention of Senator Simmons was called to an editorial in The Brooklyn Eagle, which said that the North Carolina Senator doubtless had Judge Parker in mind when, in his recent speech on the floor of the Senate, he said the Democratic nominee would be safe, sober and of judicial temperament. Senator Simmons said that the Brooklyn editor had been correct in this inference, as he felt that it would be well should the party make Judge Paader its standard-bearer.

ROOSEVELT AFRAID OF PARKER

Democrats of prominence say they have been told that President Roosevelt looks upon Judge Parker as a most formidable adversary, not only because of the financial and political elements that can be assembled in behalf of his campaign. It is openly said by Democrats that if Judge Parker is nominated the party will have no trouble in getting aid from the conservative industrial and financial interests of the East in their campaign. This is an important consideration and one which the leading Democrats are not overlooking. When asked if the declaration of Mr. Cleveland would in any way injure Judge Parker's prospects, Senator Bacon said: "Why should it hurt him? On the contrary, it should be of the greatest benefit to him, both in secur-

ing the nomination and being elected President, and it should be a great incentive to the other wing of the party to give equally cordial support to Judge Parker. The platform ought to be direct and positive and should deal only with live issues." Senator Bacon was very jubilant as he concluded the interview with this statement: "I feel more encouraged to-day than I have been at any former time."—W. A. H. in Charlotte Observer.

BIG PYTHIAN BANQUET

Held at Hendersonville
Last Thursday
Night.

WAS THE DISTRICT MEETING

And Every Lodge in
the District Was Rep-
resented Save One
—All the Lodges Are
In a Healthful Con-
dition.

Hendersonville, April 8.—The tenth district Knights of Pythias convention was held here yesterday evening. The meeting was one of the most important that has been held in Pythian circles in a good while. The tenth district includes the following lodges, and nearly all were represented in the convention yesterday: Pisgah No. 32, Asheville No. 106, of Asheville; Balacon No. 62, Waynesville; Columbus, No. 114, Columbus, N. C.; Hendersonville, No. 116; Tryon, No. 118, Tuckasee, No. 134, Dillsboro; Transylvania, 144, Brevard; Fidelity, No. 148, Marshall; and the Canton lodge of Canton.

There was a good attendance, every lodge in the district being represented except one. The afternoon session being taken up largely by the reports of the deputy grand chancellors of the lodges. These reports showed the order to be in a most healthful condition. A very large gain in membership has resulted this year, and little doubt is expressed that the tenth district will have the best report to present at the coming meeting of the grand lodge in Winston-Salem in June. A school of instruction was conducted by two or three of the members of the order well up on the secret work. This part of the program was much enjoyed and proved most instructive to the members of the order. At night a public meeting was held in the opera house presided over by Geo. L. Hackney, the district deputy. The program was opened with an instrumental duet by Misses Eva Smith and Helena Morris. The address of welcome was delivered by Rev. R. N. Wilcox. Mr. Wilcox spoke in a very happy vein and gave a most royal welcome to the visitors. This address was followed by a vocal solo by Mrs. J. F. Brooks, "A Dream of Paradise"—a number that was very much enjoyed by the audience. Chas. E. Jones, of Asheville, who responded to the chairman as "The noted young lawyer who speaks not by the hour but by the day." Mr. Jones, whose address was entirely impromptu, spoke in a most pleasing way. His remarks were loudly cheered. Mr. Chas. E. Pless favored the audience with a vocal solo, which was followed by a short address by W. E. Breese, Jr., Esq., of Brevard.

About one hundred people sat down to the banquet, tendered by the Hendersonville lodge, at the Blue Ridge Inn, to the visiting Knights and their lady friends. A very tempting menu had been provided. It was about 11 o'clock when Dr. A. H. Morrey, the toastmaster, rapped for order and called on Guy V. Roberts, Esq., of Marshall, to respond to a toast, "The Pythian Knight." Mr. Roberts, who is himself a new Knight, having been a member less than a month, spoke with much enthusiasm and to the delight of the banqueters. Rev. R. N. Wilcox responded to the toast, "The Pythian Citizen." Mr. Wilcox is a very pleasing speaker and captured the audience with his first sentence. He placed the standard of Pythianism on a high level. Geo. L. Hackney responded to the toast, "Pythian Confidence." W. P. Whitmore to the toast, "The Outlook of Pythianism," and W. E. Breese, Jr., Esq., to "Pythianism as a Social Order." J. W. Deane told of the "Origin and Purposes of Pythianism," giving some valuable history and throwing out some splendid hints for the members of the order. Then followed the gem of the evening, the response to the toast, "The Ladies," by Chas. E. Jones, Esq. Mr. Jones told the pessimist's idea of woman, quoting from Alexander Pope and others, but declared he had no sympathy with such ideas. He placed woman on a high pedestal and frequently received the cheers of the audience for his witty as well as exceedingly sensible remarks. A few words from the toastmaster closed the banquet.

Some of the Asheville delegation who were particularly anxious to return home at the earliest possible moment, sat up until four o'clock waiting for the freight train, and reached 7 o'clock this morning.—Ga-

GROVER IS FOR PARKER

The Friends of Parker Are
Pleased With Impetus
Given Movement by
Cleveland's Letter.

MR. BACON GIVES ADVICE

He is Much Gratified at Cleveland's
Declaration, and Says if the
Factions Will Unite There Will
Be Great Hopes for Success in
the Coming Presidential Elec-
tion.

Washington, April 6.—The Parker boom has received a pronounced impetus as the result of Cleveland's declaration in favor of his candidacy. Parker's friends among the Democrats of prominence numbered among whom are Senators and Representatives, are jubilant today over the Cleveland letter, announcing the ex-president's approval of the prospective candidacy of Judge Parker.

The views of Parker men may be summed up in an utterance of Senator Bacon of Georgia, who said today:

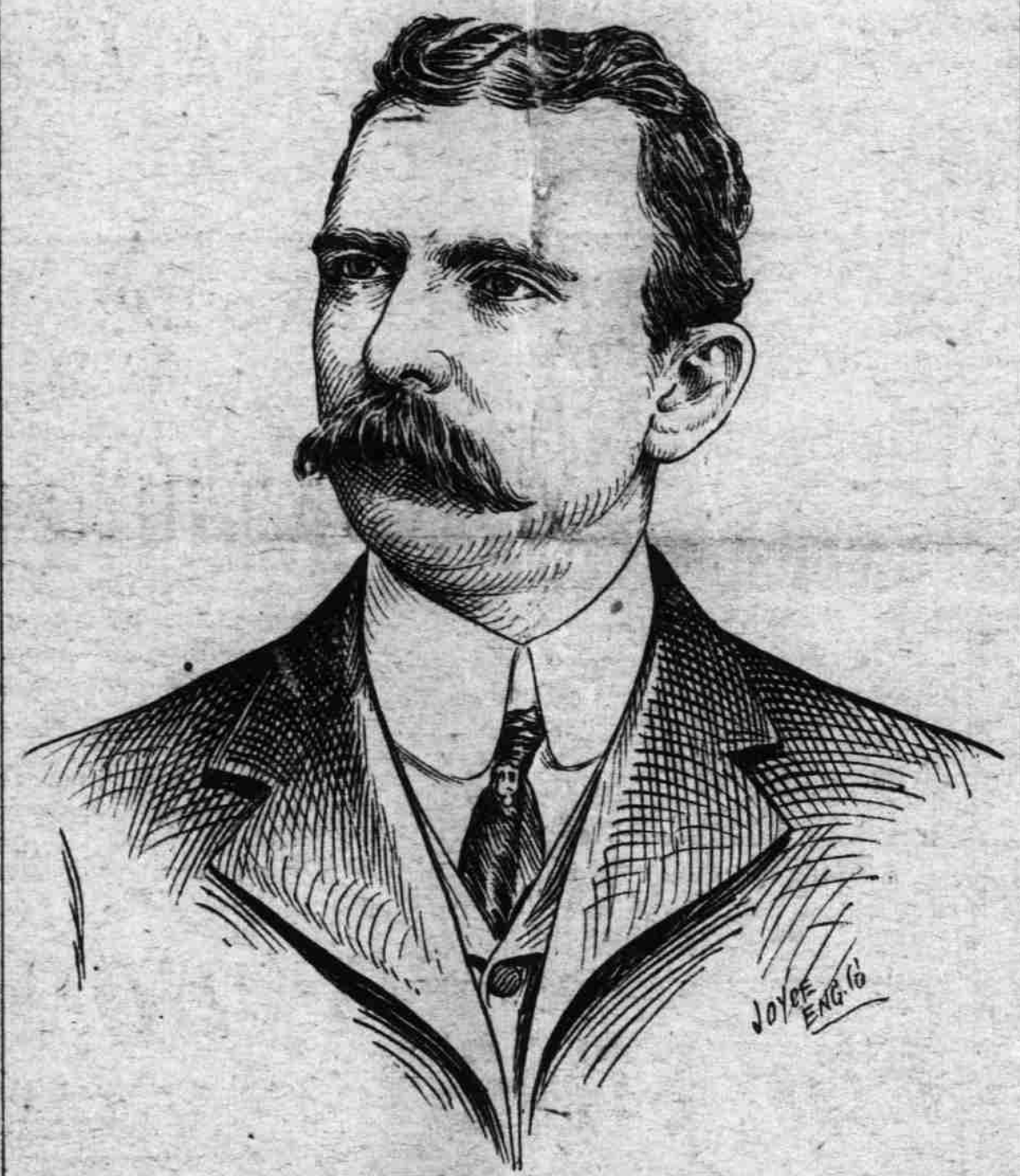
"I am much gratified that Cleveland

Men In the Public Eye

Hon. Geo. L. Morton.

This gentleman has achieved great distinction at the early age of thirty-six. He is a native of Onslow county, but moved to Wilmington when very young and has lived there ever since. He was educated at the Wilson Collegiate Institute and the Bingham School. Owing to the death of his father and being compelled, as an only child, to take up his business interests, he was unable to continue his education at the University.

Mr. Morton has always been deeply interested in politics, and is a strong Democrat. He was twice elected an Alderman of Wilmington, from a Republican ward, which, until the last few years, has never elected any other Democrat. He served as Mayor pro tem. of Wilmington, and resigned to be a candidate for the House of Representatives for the session of 1891, and was the first Democrat elected from New Hanover county at that time for thirty years. He was elected Senator from the district comprising New Hanover and Brunswick counties, to the session 1894, and was renominated for the session of 1901, being elected by a majority of over 3,000—not a single vote



HON. GEO. L. MORTON.

has made his declaration which indicates that if Parker is nominated he and those who have recently been most closely identified with him in political views will give to Parker a most cordial support. If now those in the party who have not been recently in entire political accord with Cleveland will unite with him in equally as cordial support of Parker, we can go into the approaching campaign with the greatest hope of a pronounced success at the presidential election."

Cannon For Chairman.

Washington, April 8.—Pressure is being brought upon speaker Cannon to induce him to accept the permanent chairmanship of the Republican national convention. Cannon's friends sympathize with his decided opposition to the suggestions that are being put forward that he should take it. They fear his appearance before the convention in that capacity would lead to the presentation of his name for the vice presidential nomination and they do not want him to sacrifice himself when other available candidates can be found.

His present office is one of vastly greater power and dignity.

BURTON GETS SIX MONTHS

Term in Iron County Jail and a
Heavy Fine, Too.

St. Louis, April 6.—United States Senator Burton was today sentenced to six months imprisonment in Iron county jail and to pay a fine of \$2,500. He was convicted of using his influence before the post office department in behalf of the Rialto Grain & Securities Company of St. Louis, and having received payment for services. An appeal was taken.

The Czar's Forces Are Falling Back

Bryan Wants for Support

Lincoln, Neb., April 6.—William J. Bryan is sending out from this city to his former lieutenants in all the counties of the State appeals signed by himself personally asking that they use all their influence to see that every delegate to every convention is to stand pat upon the platform and see that the delegates to the national convention are men who can be trusted to stand by that platform. This appeal has been called out by the activity of the reorganizers, who have been making considerable headway since they have openly signified their intention to support Parker for President. They construe Mr. Bryan's appeal a confession of weakness.

GENERAL DAVIDSON TALKS

Says His Campaign Is In the
Hands of Louis Bourne,
Sam Telfair and Other
Young Friends.

THE WEST AND GOVERNORSHIP

The Buncombe County Man Put-
ting His Claims on the High
Grounds That the Western Part
of the State Deserves Recogni-
tion—Gen. Davidson is a Very
Strong Man in the West.

Gen. Theo. F. Davidson, of Buncombe county, was in the city yesterday calling on and shaking hands with his friends in Mecklenburg. Mr. Davidson feels a keen interest in the people of this county, for his ancestors lived here when the Mecklenburgers made history. Some of his kinsmen stood on the square and declared themselves free and independent from England in 1875. They were among the leading citizens of the State.

General Davidson is on his way home from an extended trip through the eastern part of the State. He has been among the boys, building a few fences and gathering information. He was not inclined to say much for publication, but did say a few things of general interest.

"Yes, I am a candidate for governor. It is the west's time to be represented and I am making my fight along that line."

My campaign is in the hands of Louis Bourne, Sam Telfair and other young friends who like that sort of work. They are stirring for me.

Ten days ago I left home and passed through the straghts of Turner, Glenn and Stedman. I will get the tenth congressional district, and several counties of the one adjoining to the west. I did not expect anything much from the immediate territory of the other gentlemen. In the northeastern part of the State I was surprised and gratified to find so much strength. Those of the east want the nomination go to a western man; it is their conviction that the west should have the man. It is just and wise. They recognize the necessity of having the west get its desert.

"I came to Mecklenburg through a spirit of pride; my ancestors lived here. My folks stood yonder on the 20th of May. Some of them fought at Cowan's Ford. I may get some here, for I have a lot of loyal friends in the county. I come to put the proposition before the people; I want a fair show in the county."

"I haven't much to say. I am putting my claims on the high ground of the rights of the west. We should have the nomination."

General Davidson will remain here today. He is a good mixer and the Charlotte people like to have him around.—Charlotte Observer.

REWARD OF \$150.00 CLAIMED

By Two Knoxville Officers For Ar-
rest of N. C. Negro.

Deputy Sheriff James Hughes and Constable C. C. Gamble picked up \$150 reward last night when they arrested at a house on Vine street a negro about sixty years of age and thought to be Doc Davis, wanted at Hendersonville, N. C. The North Carolina sheriff was wired of the arrest and will be here today. What the negro is wanted for is not known. A reward of \$150 was offered for his arrest. He has been in Knoxville about four months. Davis was committed to jail.—Journal & Tribune.

As the Plucky Little Japs Ad-
vance Into Manchuria.

CONSTANT FIGHTING

Is Reported Along the
March to Wiju With
Russians, Who After
Firing a Few Shots,
Retreat—An Epidem-
ic of Cholera Attacks
Russian Soldiers.

Shanghai, April 10.—The trend of advices received here indicates that the Russians do not intend to offer battle to the Japanese.

Everything seems to indicate that the czar's forces are steadily falling back as the Japanese advance into Manchuria. Chinese who have reached here from southern Manchuria report that a great retrograde movement is in progress all along the Russian line. It is even stated that the Russians will not attempt to hold Niu-chwang if it is seriously threatened by the Japanese.

To Draw The Japanese Far From Their Base

The Russian plan of campaign, viewed in the light of this retrograde movement seems to have for its object the drawing of the Japanese forces far into Manchuria, where no assistance could be expected from the fleet. Then the Russians hope to concentrate, fall upon the Japanese in overwhelming force and crush them. In fact, the Russian general officers seem to be adopting the tactics which proved so fatal to Napoleon when he invaded Russia.

Chinese refugees from Manchuria tell stories of great hardships being endured by the Russian army.

Stories Of Hardships Endured By Russians

There is lack of clothing, food and equipments of almost every kind. Hundreds of the soldiers are sick, and the hospital arrangements are so defective that many of the sick are dying for want of proper nursing.

The Japanese are reported to be rapidly advancing from the Yalu river, which they crossed several days ago. The Russians are making no attempt to resist, simply falling back as the Japanese come on. If the Russians persist in their retrograde tactics it may be difficult for the Japanese to force a general engagement.

St. Petersburg, April 8.—The Japanese are not the only enemies the Russians have to fight.

They have cholera typhoid fever to contend with, as well as the armies of Japan.

Advices received here from Harbin state that the two diseases named are epidemic there and that hundreds of troops have been stricken.

The new levies are the greatest sufferers. These men reach Harbin after a five-thousand-mile journey in a terribly emaciated condition and fall easy victims to cholera and typhoid.

Many Russian Soldiers Have Lost Their Lives

Hundreds of the troops who are arriving at Harbin from European Russia are suffering from frostbitten noses, feet and hands. It is no uncommon thing to meet soldiers on the streets of Harbin whose noses have dropped off as a result of frost bite. Of course the cholera and typhoid, which is raging, finds easy marks in soldiers whose strength has been sapped by the trials they had to undergo on the journey to Harbin.

Fearful Mortality Because of Cholera

The mortality, according to advices received here, is very great, and is said to be increasing daily. Entire regiments are reported unfit for service.

The military authorities here express much concern over the reports from Harbin. They fear that unless the cholera is checked it will render the Russian armies unable to meet the Japanese in the field.

Epidemic of Cholera Sweeps From Fifth

The cause of the epidemic is ascribed to the sticky conditions which exist at Harbin. The streets are full of offal and refuse, and the soldiers have to use the water of the Sungari river, which is as foul as any sewer.

Harbin is the Russian base in Manchuria. From Harbin all troops arriving for the front are distributed. Thus it is apparent that an epidemic of cholera at Harbin threatens the