

Judge Alton Brooks Parker the Favorite of Democratic Party

For the Nomination of President at the National Convention in July.

A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE

From the Plow Handle

On Up the Ladder He Has Gone Until the Highest Honor of His Country Is In His Grasp—A History to Be Proud Of; One Above Reproach.

Alton Brooks Parker was born on a farm in Cortland county, May 14, 1832. His father, John Brooks Parker, comes of old English stock. His great-grandfather, John Parker, was born in 1781 at Worcester, Mass. He was a hard-working farmer. When the war for independence broke out he left his plough and served as a private under Washington until the American republic was established. Little is known of him except that he was a man of pluck and independence and was greatly respected by his neighbors. His son, John Parker was an intelligent man highly educated and public spirited. In 1803 he came to New York state and bought a farm at Cortland, the same farm which his distinguished grandson owns and cultivates today. He had a large family, and when his health broke down the burden fell heavily upon his son, John, the father of Judge Parker.

On his mother's side, Judge Parker derives good New England blood. His white-haired mother who lives at Derby, Conn., is a woman of refinement, education and strong character. In the summer time she spends the Judge's vacation with him at Esopus. She is a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The giant sits before his mother while she solemnly lectures him on temperance and being an abstemious man, smiles and promises to be good. Her constant aim is to warn him against ambition. When the newspapers grow too loud in his praise he is sure to get a letter from his mother exhorting him to be humble.

Parker's Early Days.

"Alton Brooks Parker," says Mr. Creelman, "attended the village school and worked on the farm. When 16 years old he taught school in a country school house and established his authority by thrashing the school bully. Then he taught school at Binghamton. Presently he was a teacher at Accord, in Ulster county, at \$3 a day. He intended to go to Cornell University, and was saving money for that purpose, but father's necessities drew from his slender income and his hopes of a University course failed. He moved to Kingston and entered the law office of Schoonmaker & Hardenbergh. Within a few months he took a partner named Kenyon and opened a law office at Kingston. "For twelve months the young lawyer practiced his profession in Kingston. He had a good income and won several important cases. During that time he was quite free from the control and influence of large corporation.

"In 1877 he was elected surrogate of Ulster county, and was afterward elected for a second term. That was his first experience of public office.

"His entrance into politics was due simply to his love for his old employer, Judge Shoonmaker, who had been driven out of politics. He believed that the judge had been wronged and set out to restore him to public favor. So earnest was his campaign that he soon became a recognized political factor in Ulster county, being a favorite of Mr. Tilden and Mr. Manning. In 1885 he was induced to become chairman of the democratic state committee, and in the campaign which he managed, Mr. Hill appointed him to a seat on the Supreme Court Bench when Justice Westbrook died.

"When Judge Parker was 33 years old he was unanimously nominated for the Supreme court by the democrats. The republicans would not nominate an opponent. Not a vote was cast against him. He served on the Supreme court bench until his election as chief judge of the court of appeals, in 1897, by a plurality of about 90,000 votes.

"During his nineteen years on the

bench he has ignored politics. In 1896 and 1900 he voted for Mr. Bryan, but it was well understood that he was a sound money man and merely accepted the will of the majority in his party.

Parker's Personal Appearance.

Judge Parker is six feet tall and a man of giant strength. His shoulders are broad and his chest deep. His muscles, developed by hard work on the farm and by daily horseback riding are the muscles of an athlete. He slopes perfectly as a man should, from his shoulders to his feet, and in spite of his nearly fifty two years and his weight of 196 pounds, his step is as light as a boy's and he can vault into the saddle with ease. His face is that of a country-bred man, strong and full of color. The eyes are large and of an agreeable brown; lion-like eyes, but the kindly expression. One notices the eyes first and then the immense jaws and formidable round chin. The lower part of the face is heavy, but not brutal. It has a power line and outward thrust that suggests tremendous will power. The mouth is large and masculine, with a thick lower lip. The upper teeth are big, flat and white; the lower teeth are smaller. The coarse, tawny mustache goes well with the brilliant brown eyes and the reddish brown hair.

The judge's nose is aquiline. He has high cheek bones, but the characteristics is not marked. His high broad forehead slopes back with a bump. It is singularly symmetrical brow, showing penetrating, ambition and energy. The block head is not large, and is somewhat straight, so that it does not balance with the great jaws and the fighting chin.

Nowhere in the face or head is there a suggestion of craft. Nor is there anything sideways or sly in the eyes. They look at you straight. The practical and logical dominate the imaginative qualities. Impulse is a slave to will. The lack of wrinkles between eyebrows and the smooth forehead indicate the man who can concentrate his mind without the great effort which contracts the facial muscles. Judge Parker dresses well and always in dark colors, usually grays. His ordinary attire is a cut-away of rough gray cloth and gray trousers. He wears a standing collar and a simple black cravat held by a small pearl. Few men are more decorous or careful in their dress.

Parker as a Farmer.

At the end of every week and during the summer vacation, Judge Parker is to be found on his picturesque farm, Rosemont, at Esopus, which overlooks the Hudson river. He has three farms in New York state—one of 150 acres at Cortland, another of 150 acres at Accord and still another of 90 acres at Esopus. He manages these three farms and makes them, on the whole pay. He is no dilettante stranger to the country, playing with agriculture as with a toy, but a real farmer.

He was born on it and worked along its furrows as a boy. However deep his mind is immersed in the complex problems of his great office, his heart is always in his farm; for he was born a farmer and will be one till he dies. This familiar and practical knowledge of farming and farmers is of great value to the court in dealing with agricultural cases.

Here Judge Parker walks among his bulls and cows in top boots and pea-jacket, the incarnation of strength and virility. He strides through the sorghum and hay fields, visits the great barn, tends the sick cow or fondles the least calf and helps the men to clear up the leaves or stubble. His cheeks glow, his eyes shine, and he swings his arms like a boy, drinking in great draughts of the pure air or whistling a merry tune.

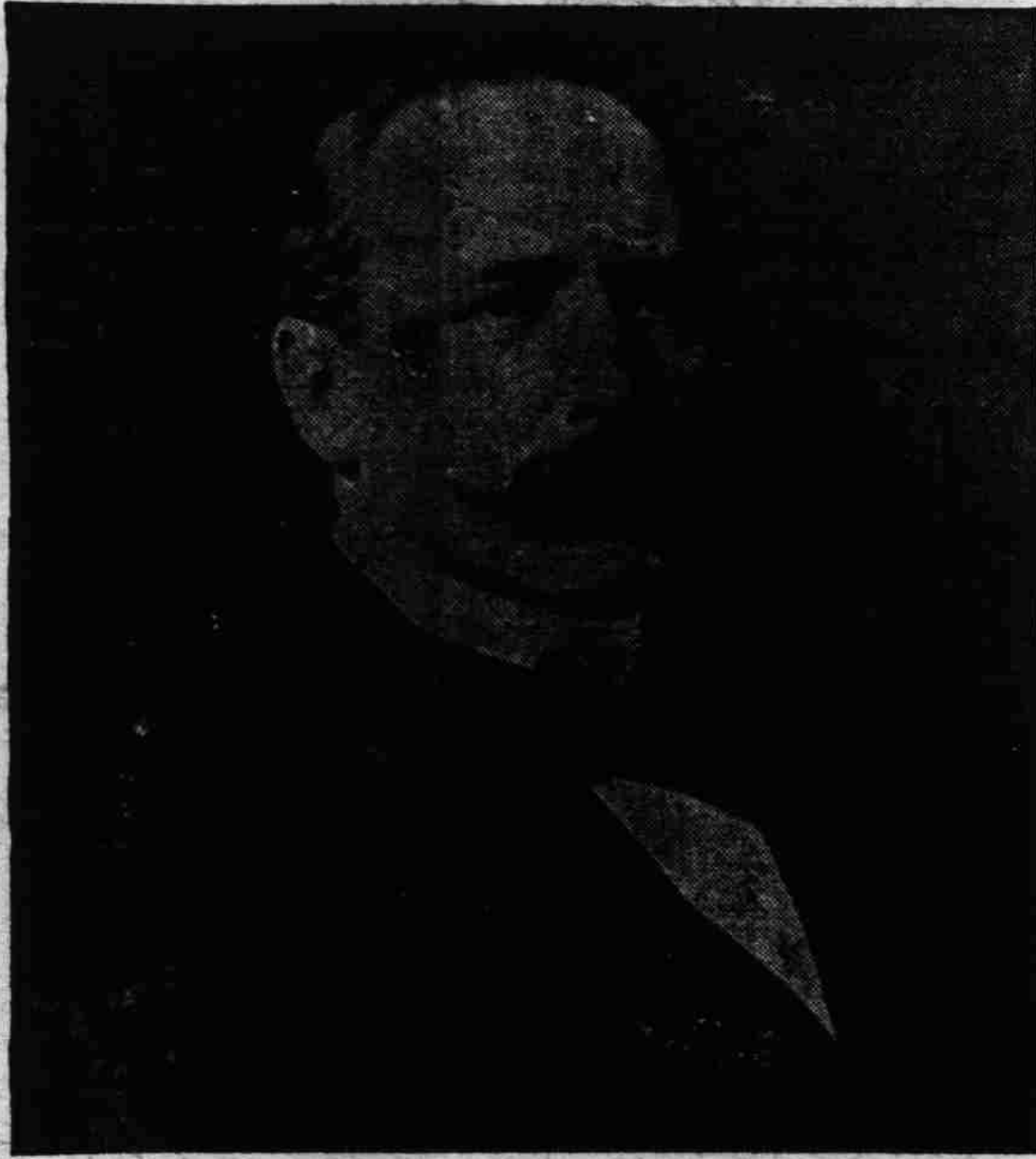
None of his eight farm hands knows half as much as he about the trees, the crops, the cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens, turkeys, or ducks. Whether in the pasture, barn or sty, he is the master of all in knowledge, as well as in energy. He will ply his pitchfork or put his shoulder under a heavy weight with the best of them; and it is a good man who can keep up with him. He is modest enough, save when he stands among his great red poll cattle, the pride of his heart. Then he swells with conscious comradeship, for they are like him—big, strong and genuine. There is no finer sight in that part of the country

than Judge Parker in the middle of his herd, culling to his great bulls and laughing as they come to him.

There is a large silo and a cold storage house, built on the judge's plans. In the storage house are apples, pears, cider and all manner of good things to eat, mostly the products of Rosemont. Thrift, orderliness and energetic management are everywhere in evidence.

Expects Great Things of Him.

Rev. A. R. Love of Hendersonville, will fill the pulpit of the First Baptist church tomorrow at both the morning and evening services. Mr. Love is one of the rising young ministers in the Southern Baptist church, and he will no doubt be heard by large audiences at both services. He is a forceful and eloquent speaker and a hard student, and those who have heard him expect great things of him before his career has ended.—Gezette-News.



JUDGE ALTON B. PARKER, WHO MAY BE THE NEXT DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

FROM THE CAPITOL'S DOME TEXT OF THE PLATFORM

Mr. Gudger is Not Alarmed—Good Words for Parker.

Congressman Gudger's friends at Hendersonville telegraphed him tonight of Judge Ewart's nomination. Mr. Gudger declined to discuss the subject for publication, inasmuch as he is not yet the formally nominated candidate of his own party, but it was plainly to be seen that he does not view the outlook with alarm. Mr. Gudger's friends say there are scores of Republicans, especially in Asheville and thereabouts, who will not enthuse over this choice of the party leaders.

Good Words For Parker.

One sometimes hears the remark here, where politics is at all times uppermost in the public mind, that Judge Parker has no place whatsoever in the affections of the people, and that his candidacy was brought into being through the efforts of the professional politicians for the purpose of check-mating the Hearst propaganda. Some facts which have come to the attention of the writer serve to refute this statement. A year or more ago, before the aspirations of Mr. Hearst had been brought to the attention of the country, Representative Klutz, in an interview in The Washington Post, declared that Judge Parker was the most available man the party could name. A democrat who constantly keeps his finger on the party pulse recently told the writer that he had told members of the Georgia delegation three years ago that Judge Parker's ability and general fitness should commend him to the party when seeking a presidential candidate. A Republican at all times in the counsel of President Roosevelt said a few days ago that the President had for the past year believed that Judge Parker would be his opponent. This Republican also denied the statement, likewise made on Republican authority, that the President regarded Judge Parker as an

Plucky Japanese Sustain Heavy Loss While Making A Landing

Reported That Japanese Lost 7,000 Men Near the Yalu River on 23rd.

especially strong candidate. It is stated that Texas Democrats and other Southerners had taken kindly to his candidacy because of certain decisions of the New York jurist unfavorable to the combinations of capital. All the decisions will of course be aired during the campaign, and Republicans profess to believe that when the "plutocrats" examine a little more closely into Judge Parker's record they will not be inclined to give him aid and comfort than they would extend to the President. Friends of Judge Parker have been derelict in one respect. They have had printed but a very few buttons, a necessary adjunct in any well regulated campaign. Mr. Klutz has received a request for a button, bearing the likeness of the New York jurist from a McDowell county man, and to comply therewith had to beg or borrow one from a New York member. Apparently the small edition of buttons has been kept in New York.—Washington Cor. Charlotte Observer.

ducts from the foreign markets.

8. The maintenance of state rights and home rule, no centralization.

9. Honesty in the public service; vigilance in the prevention of fraud, firmness in the punishment of guilt when detected.

10. The impartial maintenance of the rights of labor of capital; no unequal discrimination; no abuse of the powers of law for favoritism or oppression.

The Democracy of New York favor the nomination of that distinguished Democratic and eminent jurist of our state, Alton Brooks Parker; and the delegates selected by this convention are hereby instructed to present and support such nomination at the approaching national convention.

That the said delegates are hereby further instructed to act and vote as a unit in all matters pertaining to said convention in accordance with the will of the majority of the said delegates, and the said delegates are further authorized to fill any vacancies which may arise from any cause in said delegation, in case of the absence of both the delegate and alternate.

THE McDOWELL DEMOCRATS.

Support Gudger and Davidson.

Marion, N. C., April 25.—The McDowell county convention called for the purpose of selecting delegates to state and congressional conventions, was held to day. The convention was well attended, every township being represented by leaders of Democracy, who were all enthusiastic and united in the opinion that McDowell would swing back into the Democratic column in the November election.

Congressman Gudger received 39 1-8 votes out of a total of 47 cast in the convention. His endorsement in this county is regarded by his friends as an index of the sentiment for his re-nomination throughout the district.

Judge Justice was unanimously endorsed for associate justice of the Supreme court.

Gen. Davidson carried the county for governor by a good majority—however, Glenn, Steadman and Turner had following.

This being the first Democratic convention held in the Tenth Congressional District, all are pleased with the harmony which existed, and expect a great Democratic victory this fall.

ROBERTS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

General W. P. Roberts, of Gatesville, N. C. Spoken Of.

Suffolk, Va., April 22.—A movement today was started looking to the nomination for vice president on the Democratic ticket of General W. P. Roberts, of Gatesville, N. C., who was the youngest general in the Confederate army. It is contended that this nomination would be in harmony with the frequently expressed sentiment against the South's policy of self effacement.

General Roberts was formerly auditor of North Carolina and under Cleveland's second administration, was consul to Victoria, B. C.

JUDGE CHAS. SIMONTON DEAD.

Distinguished Jurist Passes Away in Philadelphia Hospital.

PHILADELPHIA, April 25.—Judge Chas. Simonton, of South Carolina, died here in a hospital today. He came to receive treatment for brain trouble, but grew steadily worse till death came. With Judge Goff, of West Virginia, he composed the federal bench of the fourth district, which includes Maryland, West Virginia, North and South Carolina.

Hobson May Be Delegate to Democratic Convention.

Birmingham, Ala., April 19.—Though defeated for the Congressional nomination from the sixth district by Congressman John H. Bankhead in the recent primaries, Cap. Hobson will not lose his identity with Alabama politics.

The people of this district propose to send him as delegate to the national convention at St. Louis and two years hence it is said that he will be a candidate again for the congressional honors. Meantime he will return to the lecture platform.

IS NOT CONFIRMED

By Later Reports—A Fierce Battle Is Reported Between Opposing Forces For the Control of Railroad in Rear of Pt. Arthur—Japanese Move on Port Arthur.

St. Petersburg, April 23.—5:18 p. m.—A rumor is current in this city that the Japanese sustained a heavy loss while attempting a landing near the mouth of the Yalu river. According to the report, which is said to be based upon a private telegram from Port Arthur, the Japanese lost 7,000 men. The story is not confirmed at this hour and it is discredited in quarters where the Associated Press correspondent made inquiries, but an absolute official statement has not yet been obtained.

Nothing Definite.

Paris, April 23.—1:20 p. m.—Information reaching the highest quarters here tends to confirm the report that a rather serious engagement has occurred on the Yalu river, involving a reverse to a Japanese column, but the information lacks positiveness and the details therefore are given under reserve, although credited in influential quarters. It is said this is not the minor operation mentioned in Viceroy Alexieff's report of April 22.

Sunday in The War.

A long the Yalu Japanese lines extend for thirty miles. The Russians are fortifying the Manchurian side of the river. Tige Hill is again the key to the situation. In the belief of the Russian's general staff the Japanese will not attempt to invade the Manchurian interior. Remembering Napoleon.

St. Petersburg, April 25.—6:30 p. m.—The Associated Press is enabled to announce authoritatively that the talk of mediation in the Russo-Japanese war was founded upon the personal desires of King Edward and King Christian, or Demark, to avoid further bloodshed and end the conflict, but that the steps initiated have utterly failed. The emperor, with the full concurrence of the imperial family and his advisors, has finally decided not only to reject all proposals looking to intervention, but to prosecute the war with all the resources of the empire until victory crowns Russian arms.

Jap Merchantman Sunk.

Tokio, April 25.—6 p. m.—The Russian Vladivostok squadron, after a long period of inactivity, suddenly appeared off Gensan on the east coast of Korea, this morning and sank the Goyo Maru, a Japanese merchant steamer of 600 tons.

Work of Torpedo Boats.

London, April 25.—5:45 p. m.—The Japanese legation today gave out the following dispatch, received today from Tokio: "The Japanese counsel at Won San (Gensan) reports under today's date that two Russian torpedo boats entered that port and sank a small Japanese steamer, the Goyo Maru. Her gross tonnage was 600 and she was built in 1884. The Russians immediately left."

Japs Have Not Crossed Yalu.

St. Petersburg, April 25.—Major General Pflung, in a telegram from Port Arthur, formally denies the reports that the Japanese have crossed the Yalu river.

Friday War News.

It is reported that the Japanese have bombarded Niuchwan and that a large force has been landed which will act in concert with the troops landed at the mouth of the Yalu.

The Japanese forces in Korea are now ready to move, and will, it is believed, make a dash for the Yalu from three distinct points in a few days.

An official telegram received at St. Petersburg states that the Japanese are centered in force about Wiju. A small Russian detachment was engaged, but succeeded in crossing the Yalu, having two killed and fifteen wounded.

Thursday.

Lives of British and Americans are said to be in great danger throughout Manchuria, where the bitterest feelings are held against all foreigners. The Russian government has provided for an issue of \$15,000,000 paper currency

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