

# THE EUGENE CITY GUARD.

## SUPPLEMENT.

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

Resolutions Adopted by the Democratic Party at the National Convention of 1884.

The Democratic party of the Union, through its representatives in National Convention assembled, recognizes that, as the nation grows older, new issues are born of time and progress, and old issues perish; but the fundamental principles of the Democracy, approved by the united voice of the people, remain, and will ever remain, as the best and the only security for the continuance of free government, the preservation of personal rights, the equality of all citizens before the law. The reserved rights of the States and the supremacy of the Federal Government, within the limits of the Constitution, will ever form the true basis of our liberties, and can never be surrendered without destroying that balance of rights and powers which enables a continent to be developed in peace, and social order to be maintained by means of local self-government. But it is indispensable, for the practical application and enforcement of these fundamental principles, that the Government should not always be controlled by one political party. Frequent change of administration is as necessary as constant recurrence to the popular will. Otherwise abuses grow in the Government instrumentally for imposing heavy burdens on the many, who are governed for the benefit of the few who govern, and public servants thus become arbitrary rulers: This is now the condition of the country—hence a change is demanded. The Republican party, so far as principle is concerned, is a reminiscence; in practice it is an organization for enriching those who control its machinery. The frauds and jobbery which have been brought to light in every department of the Government are sufficient to have called for reform within the Republican party; yet those in authority, made reckless by the long possession of power, have succumbed to its corrupting influence and have placed in nomination a ticket against which the independent portion of the party are in open revolt. Therefore a change is demanded. Such a change was a like necessity in 1876, but the will of the people was then defeated by a fraud which can never be forgotten nor condoned. Again in 1880, the change demanded by the people was defeated by the lavish use of money, contributed by unscrupulous contractors and shameless jobbers, who had bargained for unlawful profits or for high office. The Republican party, during its legal, its stolen and its bought tenures of power, has steadily decayed in moral character and political capacity. Its platform promises are now a list of its past failures. It demands the restoration of our navy; it has squandered hundreds of millions to create a navy that does not exist; it calls upon Congress to remove the burdens under which American shipping has been depressed; it imposes and has continued those burdens; it professes a preference for free institutions; it organized and tried to legalize a control of State elections by Federal troops; it professes a desire to elevate labor; it has subjected American workmen to the competition of convict and imported contract labor; it professes gratitude to all who were disabled or died in the war, leaving widows and orphans. It left to a Democratic House of Representatives the first effort to equalize both bounties and pensions. It proffered a pledge to correct the irregularities of our tariff; it created and continued them. Its own Tariff Commission confessed the need of more than 20 per cent reduction; its Congress gave a reduction of less than 4 per cent. It professes the protection of American manufacturers; it has subjected them to an increasing flood of manufactured goods and a hopeless competition with manufacturing nations, not one of which taxes raw materials. It professes to protect all American industries; it has impoverished the many to protect a few. It professes the protection of American labor; it has depleted the returns of American agriculture, an industry followed by half of our people. It professes the equality of all citizens before the law; attempting to fix the status of colored citizens, the Acts of its Congress were overt by the decisions of its Courts. It "accepts anew the duty of leading in the work of progress and reform;" its caught criminals are permitted to escape through contrived delays or actual connivance in the prosecution. Honey-combed with corruption, outbreking exposures no longer shock its moral sense. Its honest members, its independent journals no longer maintain a successful contest for authority in its councils or a veto on bad nominations. That change is necessary is proved by an existing surplus of more than \$100,000,000, which has yearly been collected from a suffering people. Unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation.

#### EXCESSIVE TAXES.

We denounce the Republican party for having failed to relieve the people from crushing war taxes, which have paralyzed business, crippled industry and deprived labor of employment and of just reward.

The Democracy pledges itself to purify the Administration from corruption, to restore economy, to revive respect for law, and to reduce taxation to the lowest limit consistent with due regard to the preservation of the faith of the nation to its creditors and pensioners. Knowing full well, however, that legislation affecting the occupations of the people should be cautious and conservative in method—not in advance of public opinion, but responsive to it—the Democratic party is pledged to revise the tariff in a spirit of fairness to all interests, but in making a reduction in taxes it is not proposed to injure any domestic industries but rather to promote their healthy growth. From the foundation of this Government, the taxes collected at the Custom-house have been the chief source of Federal revenue, and so they must continue to be. Moreover, many industries have come to rely upon legislation for their successful continuance, so that any change of law must be at every step regardful of the labor and capital thus involved. The process of reform must be subject in its execution to this plain dictate of justice. All taxation shall be limited to the requirements of economical government. The necessary reduction in taxation can and must be effected without depriving American labor of the ability to compete successfully with foreign labor and without imposing lower rates of duty than will be ample to cover any increased cost of production which may exist in consequence of the higher rate of wages prevailing in this country. Sufficient revenue to pay all expenses of the Federal Government, economically administered, including pensions, interest and principal of the public debt, can be got under our present system of taxation from custom-house taxes on fewer imported articles, bearing heaviest on articles of luxury and bearing lightest on articles of necessity. We therefore denounce the abuses of the existing tariff and demand that it be subjected to these limitations. We demand that Federal taxation shall be exclusively for public purposes and shall not exceed the needs of Government, economically administered.

#### INTERNAL REVENUE.

The system of direct taxation known as the "Internal Revenue," is a war tax, and so long as the law continues, the duty derived therefrom should be sacredly devoted to the relief of the people from the remaining burdens of the war, and be made a fund to defray the expense of the care and comfort of worthy soldiers disabled in the line of duty in the wars of the republic, and for the payment of such pensions as Congress may from time to time grant to such soldiers, a like fund for the sailors having been already provided, and any surplus should be paid into the Treasury.

#### A BROAD CONTINENTAL POLICY.

We favor an American continental policy, based upon more intimate commercial and political relations with the fifteen sister republics of North, Central and South America, but entering into alliances with none.

#### COIN AND CURRENCY.

We believe in honest money; gold and silver coinage, and a circulating medium convertible into such money.

#### EQUAL JUSTICE TO ALL.

While asserting the equality of all men before the law, we hold that it is the duty of the Government in its dealings with the people to mete out equal and exact justice to all citizens of whatever nativity, race, color or persuasion, religious or political.

#### NO TROOPS AT THE POLLS.

We believe in a free ballot and a fair count, and we recall to the memory of the people the noble struggle of the Democrats in the Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth Congresses, by which a reluctant Republican Administration was compelled to assent to legislation making everywhere illegal the presence of troops at the polls, as the conclusive proof that a Democratic Administration will preserve liberty with order.

#### TERRITORIAL OFFICERS.

The selection of Federal officers for the Territories should be restricted to citizens previously resident therein.

We oppose sumptuary laws which vex the citizen and interfere with individual liberty.

We favor honest Civil Service reform in the compensation of all United States officers by fixed salaries.

#### CHURCH AND STATE SEPARATE.

We favor the separation of Church and State and the diffusion of free education by common schools, so that every child in the land may be taught the rights and duties of citizenship.

#### RIGHTS OF PROPERTY PRESERVED.

While we favor all legislation which will tend to the equitable distribution of property, to the prevention of monopoly and to the strict enforcement of individual rights against corporate abuses, we hold that the welfare of society depends on a scrupulous regard for the rights of property, as defined by law.

#### RIGHTS OF LABOR.

We believe labor is best rewarded where it is freest and most enlightened. It should be fostered and cherished. We fa-

vor the repeal of all laws restricting the free action of labor and the enactment of laws by which labor organization may be increased, and all such legislation as will tend to enlighten the people as to the true relations of capital and labor.

#### PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC LANDS.

We believe that the public lands ought, as far as possible, be kept as homesteads for actual settlers. That all unearned lands heretofore improvidently granted to railroad corporations by the action of the Republican party should be restored to the public domain and no more grants shall be made to corporations, or be allowed to fall into the ownership of alien absenteees.

#### AGAINST CENTRALIZATION.

We are opposed to all propositions which, upon any pretext, would convert the General Government into a machine for the collection of taxes to be distributed among the States or the citizens thereof in repeating the declaration of the Democratic platform of 1856 that, "The liberal principles embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence and sanctioned in the Constitution, which make ours the land of liberty and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation, have ever been the cardinal principles in the Democratic faith. We nevertheless do not sanction the importation of foreign labor or the admission of servile races, unfitted by habits, training, religion or kindred, for absorption into the great body of our people, or fear the citizenship which our laws confer. American civilization demands that, against the immigration or importation of Mongolians to these shores, our gates be closed.

#### RIGHTS OF NATURALIZED CITIZENS.

With the Democratic party we insist that it is the duty of the Government to protect with equal fidelity and vigilance the rights of its citizens, native and naturalized, at home and abroad, and to the end that this protection may be assured, United States papers of naturalization, issued by courts of competent jurisdiction, must be respected by the executive and legislative departments of our own Government, and by all foreign powers. It is an imperative duty of this Government to efficiently protect all the rights of her sons and the property of every American citizen in foreign lands, and demand and enforce full reparation for any invasion thereof. An American citizen is only responsible to his own Government for any act done in his own country or under her flag and law, and can only be tried thereon on her own soil and according to her laws; and no power exists in this Government to expatriate an American citizen to be tried in any foreign land for any such act. This country has never had a well-defined and educated foreign policy, save under a Democratic Administration. That policy has ever been, in regard to foreign nations, so long as they do not act detrimental to the interests of the country, or hurtful to our citizens, but let them alone. As the result of this policy we recall the acquisition of Louisiana, Florida, California, and of the adjacent Mexican territory, by purchase alone, and contrast these grand acquisitions of Democratic statesmanship with the purchase of Alaska, the sole fruit of a Republican administration of nearly a quarter of a century.

The General Government should care for and improve the Mississippi river and other great water-ways of the Republic, so as to secure for the interior States easy and cheap transportation to tide water.

#### DECAY OF COMMERCE.

Under a long period of Democratic policy our merchant marine was fast overtaking, and on the point of outstripping that of Great Britain. Under twenty years of Republican rule and policy our commerce has been lost to the British, and almost has the American flag been kept off the high seas. Instead of the Republican party's British policy, we demand for the people of the United States an American policy. Under Democratic rule and policy our merchants and sailors were flying the stars and stripes in every port, successfully searching out markets for the varied products of American industry. Under a quarter of a century of Republican rule and policy, despite our manifest advantages over all other nations in high-paid labor, favorable climates and teeming soils—despite freedom of trade among all these United States—despite their population of the foremost races of men and the annual immigration of the thrifty and adventurous of all nations—despite our freedom here from the inherited burdens of life and industry in the old world monarchies, their costly war navies, their vast tax-consuming standing armies—despite twenty years of peace, the Republican rule and policy have managed to surrender to Great Britain, along with our commerce, the control of the markets of the world. Instead of the Republican party's British policy we demand, on behalf of the American Democracy, an American policy; instead of the Republican party's discredit, shame and false pretense of friendship to American labor expressed by imposing taxes, we demand, in behalf of the Demo-

cracy, freedom for American labor, by reducing taxes, to the end that these United States may compete with unhindered Powers for the permanency, among nations, of all the arts of peace and fruits of liberty.

#### TILDEN.

With profound regret we have been apprised by the venerable statesman through whose person was struck that blow at the vital principle of the republic, acquiescence in the will of the majority, that he cannot permit us again to place in his hands the leadership of the Democratic hosts for the reason that the achievement of reform in the administration of the Federal Government is an undertaking now too heavy for his age and failing strength. Rejoicing that his life has been prolonged until the general judgment of our fellow countrymen is united in the wish that that wrong was righted in his person, for the Democracy of the United States we offer to him in his withdrawal from the canvass, not only our respectful sympathy and esteem, but also that best homage of freemen, the pledge of our devotion to the principles and the course now inseparable in the history of this republic, from the leadership and the name of Samuel J. Tilden.

#### SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE.

With this statement of the hopes, principles and purposes of the Democratic party, the great issue of reform and change in the Administration is submitted to the people, in calm confidence that the popular voice will pronounce in favor of new men and new and more favorable conditions for the growth of industry, the extension of trade, the employment and due reward of labor and of capital, and the general welfare of the country.

### CLEVELAND'S LETTER

Accepting the Nomination of the Democratic Party.

GENTLEMEN: I have received your communication dated July 28, 1884, informing me of my nomination to the office of President of the United States, by the National Democratic Convention, lately assembled at Chicago. I accept the nomination with grateful appreciation of the supreme honor conferred and a solemn sense of the responsibility which, in its acceptance, I assume. I have carefully considered the platform adopted by the convention and cordially approve the same. So plain a statement of Democratic faith and the principles upon which that party appeals to the suffrages of the people needs no supplement or explanation. It should be remembered that the office of President is essentially executive in its nature. The laws enacted by the legislative branch of the Government the Chief Executive is bound faithfully to enforce. When the wisdom of the political party which selects one of its members as a nominee for that office has outlined its policy and declared its principles, it seems to me that nothing in the character of the office or the necessities of the case requires more from the candidate accepting such nomination than the suggestion of certain well-known truths so absolutely vital to the safety and welfare of the nation that they cannot be too often recalled or too seriously enforced.

#### OUR GOVERNMENT.

We proudly call ours a Government by the people. It is not such when a class is tolerated which arrogates to itself the management of public affairs, seeking to control the people instead of representing them. Parties are the necessary outgrowth of our institutions, but a Government cannot be by the people when one party fastens its control upon the country and perpetuates its power by cajoling and betraying the people instead of serving them. A Government is not by the people when a result which should represent the intelligent will of free-thinking men is or can be determined by the shamelessness of their suffrages. When an election to office shall be the selection by the voters of one of their number, to assume for a time a public trust, instead of his dedication to the profession of politics; when the holders of ballots, quickened by a sense of duty, shall avenge truth betrayed and pledges broken, and when the suffrages shall be altogether free and uncorrupted, the full realization of a Government by the people will be at hand.

#### IN FAVOR OF ONE TERM.

And of the means to this end,

not one would, in my judgment, be more effective than an amendment to the Constitution disqualifying the President from re-election.

When we consider the patronage of the great office, the allurements of power, the temptation to retain public place once gained and more than all, the availability a party finds in an incumbent whom a horde of office-holders, with a zeal born of benefits received and fostered by the hope of favors yet to come, stand ready to aid with money and trained political service, we recognize in the eligibility of the President for re-election a most serious danger to that calm, deliberate and intelligent political action which must characterize a Government by the people.

#### LABOR AND NATIONAL PROSPERITY.

A true American sentiment recognizes the dignity of labor, and the fact that honor lies in honest toil makes contented labor an element of national prosperity. Ability to work constitutes the capital and the wages of labor the income of a vast number of our population, and this interest should be jealously protected. Our workmen are not asking unreasonable terms, but, as intelligent citizens they seek the same consideration which those demand who have other interests at stake. They should receive the full share of the care and attention of those who make and execute the laws, to the end that the wants and the needs of the employers and employees should alike be subserved and the prosperity of the country, the common heritage of both, be advanced. As related to this subject while we should not discourage the immigration of those who come to acknowledge allegiance to our Government and add to our country's population, yet, as a means of protection to our workmen, a different rule should prevail concerning those who, if they come or are brought to our land, do not intend to become Americans, but will injuriously compete with those justly entitled to our labor.

#### CARE FOR THE WORKINGMEN.

In a letter accepting the nomination to the office of Governor, nearly two years ago, I made the following statement, to which I have steadily adhered: "The laboring classes constitute the main part of our population. They should be protected in their efforts peaceably to assert their rights when endangered by capital, and all statutes on this subject should recognize the care of the State for honest toil, and be framed with a view of improving the condition of the workingmen, a proper care for the workingmen being inseparably connected with the integrity of our institutions. None of our citizens are more interested than they in guarding against any corrupting influences which seek to pervert the beneficent purposes of our Government, and none should be more watchful of the fearful machinations of those that allure them to self-inflicted injury. In a free country, the curtailment of the absolute rights of the individual should only be such as is essential to the peace and good order of the community. The limit between the proper subjects of governmental control and those which can be more fittingly left to the moral sense and self-imposed restraint of the citizens should be carefully kept in view. Thus laws unnecessarily interfering with the habits and customs of any one of our people which are not offensive to the moral sentiments of the civilized world and which are consistent with good citizenship and the public welfare are unwise and vexatious."

#### COMMERCE AND GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

The commerce of a nation to a great extent determines its supremacy. Cheap and easy transportation should therefore be liberally fostered within the limits of the Constitution, and the General Government should so improve and protect its natural

waterways as will enable the producers of the country to reach a profitable market.

The people pay the wages of the public employees, and they are entitled to the fair and honest work which the money thus paid should command. It is the duty of those entrusted with the management of affairs to see that such public service is forthcoming. The selection and retention of subordinates in government employment should depend upon their ascertained fitness and the value of their work, and they should be neither expected nor allowed to do questionable party service. The interest of the people will be better protected, the estimate of public labor and duty will be immensely improved, if public employment be open to all who demonstrate their fitness to enter it. Then the unseemly scramble for office under the Government with the consequent impertunity which embitters official life will cease, and the public departments will not be filled with those who conceive it to be their first duty to aid the party to which they owe their place, instead of rendering patient and honest return to the people.

#### AN HONEST, PLAIN ADMINISTRATION DESIRED.

I believe that the public temper is such that the voters of the land are prepared to support the party which gives the best promise of administering the Government in the honest, simple and plain manner which is consistent with its character and purposes. They have learned that mystery and concealment in the management of their affairs cover tricks and betrayal. The statesmanship they require consists in honesty and frugality, a prompt response to the needs of the people as they arise, and the vigilant protection of all their varied interests.

If I should be called to the Chief Magistracy of the nation by the suffrages of my fellow-citizens, I will assume the duties of that high office with a solemn determination to dedicate every effort to the country's good, and with an humble reliance upon the favor and support of the Superior Being who, I believe, will always bless honest human endeavor in the conscientious discharge of public duty.

#### GROVER CLEVELAND.

To Col. William Vilas, Chairman, and D. P. Bestor and others, members of the Notification Committee of the Democratic National Convention.

### HENDRICKS' LETTER

Accepting the Nomination of the Democratic Party.

INDIANAPOLIS, August 20, 1884.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication notifying me of my nomination by the Democratic Convention at Chicago as a candidate for the office of Vice-President of the United States. I repeat what I said on another occasion, that it is a nomination which I had neither expected nor desired, and yet I recognize and appreciate the high honor done me by the convention. The choice of such a body, pronounced with such unusual unanimity, and accompanied with so generous an expression of esteem and confidence, ought to outweigh all my personal desires and all preferences of my own. It is from a deep sense of public duty that I now accept the nomination, and shall abide by the judgment of my countrymen. I have examined with care the declaration of principles adopted by the convention, a copy of which you have submitted to me, and in their sum and substance I heartily endorse and approve the same. I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. A. HENDRICKS.

To the Hon. Wm. F. Vilas, Chairman, Nicholas M. Bell, Secretary, and others of the Committee of the National Democratic Committee.