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TILDEN POSITIVELY DECLINES.

His letter refusing the Democratic Presidential Nomination.

New York, June 11.—The following communication from Samuel J. Tilden has been given to the associated press:

New York, June 10.
To Daniel Manning, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, New York:—In my letter of June 18, 1880, addressed to the delegates from the state of New York to the Democratic national convention, I said: "Having now borne faithfully my full share of labors and care in public service, and wearing the marks of its burdens, I desire nothing so much as an honorable discharge. I wish to lay down the honors of party leadership, and to seek the repose of private life. In renouncing nomination for the presidency I do so with no doubt in my mind as to the vote of the state of New York, or of the United States, but because I believe it is a renunciation of re-election to the presidency. To those who think my renunciation and re-election indispensable to an effectual vindication of the right of the people to elect their rulers, violated in my person, I have accorded as long a reserve of my decision as possible, but I cannot overcome my repugnance to enter a new term of engagement which involves four years of ceaseless toil. The dignity of the presidential office is above a merely personal ambition, but it creates in me no illusion. Its value is as a great power for good to the country."

THE OLD LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE.

"I said four years ago: 'In accepting this nomination, knowing as I do, therefore, from fresh experience, how great the difference is between riding through an official routine and working in a reform of systems and policies, it is imperative on me to contemplate these needed reforms with an anxious sense of the difficulties of the undertaking. If sanctioned by the suffrages of my countrymen to attempt this work, I shall endeavor, with God's help, to be the efficient instrument of their will.'"

THE RESOLUTION STRENGTHENED.

In the four years which have since elapsed, not only has the occasion seemed to require more that sacrifice of private preferences to the public welfare. I undertook the state administration of New York because it was supposed in that way only could the executive power be arrayed on the side of the reforms to which, as a private citizen, I had given three years of my life, and accepted the nomination for the presidency in 1876, because of the general conviction that my candidacy would best present the issue of reform, which the Democratic majority of the people desired to have worked out in the federal government as it had been done in the state of New York. I believed that I had strength enough then to renovate the administration of the government of the United States, and at the close of my term to hand over the great trust to a successor, faithful to the same policy. Though anxious to seek the repose of a private life, I nevertheless acted upon the idea that every power is a trust that involves a duty. In reply to the address of the committee communicating my nomination, I depicted the difficulties of the undertaking, and likened my feelings in undertaking it to those of a soldier entering battle, but I did not withhold the entire consideration of my powers to the public service.

HIS OFFICIAL RECORD.

I have never accepted official service, except for a brief period, for a special purpose, and only when the occasion seemed to require more that sacrifice of private preferences to the public welfare. I undertook the state administration of New York because it was supposed in that way only could the executive power be arrayed on the side of the reforms to which, as a private citizen, I had given three years of my life, and accepted the nomination for the presidency in 1876, because of the general conviction that my candidacy would best present the issue of reform, which the Democratic majority of the people desired to have worked out in the federal government as it had been done in the state of New York. I believed that I had strength enough then to renovate the administration of the government of the United States, and at the close of my term to hand over the great trust to a successor, faithful to the same policy. Though anxious to seek the repose of a private life, I nevertheless acted upon the idea that every power is a trust that involves a duty. In reply to the address of the committee communicating my nomination, I depicted the difficulties of the undertaking, and likened my feelings in undertaking it to those of a soldier entering battle, but I did not withhold the entire consideration of my powers to the public service.

A SEVERE TASK.

Twenty years of continuous maladministration under the direction of financiers, who have infected the whole governmental system of the United States with the cancerous growths of false constructions and corrupt practices. Powerful classes have acquired pecuniary interests in official abuses, and the moral standards of the people have been lowered. To redress these evils is a work of great difficulty and labor, and cannot be accomplished without the most energetic and effi-

BEN BUTLER.

Ben Butler is a cloud upon the political horizon considerably bigger than a man's hand. Not much attention is being paid to him by the press at present. The noise of the Republican convention has filled the public ear. The matter will be kept up, and probably will increase, until the Democratic convention has been held. Then the press and politicians will have a breathing spell, and Butler will become a very interesting object of inspection. He has already received the presidential nomination from two conventions—those of the Anti-Monopolists and the Greenbackers. Doubtless he will go with this backing to the Democratic convention, but there is scarcely a possibility that he can get the nomination there. If he does not, will he stay in the field?

This question is full of serious import to the Democracy. It is the general opinion that if disturbing forces could be kept out of the contest between the two regular parties the outcome would be unpredictable. Party fealty is weak, and at any time during the fight a stampede of voters from one side to the other would surprise the onlooker. It is a matter of small importance to the country whether the next president shall be a Republican or a Democrat. The parties are as nearly alike in their practical policies as two parties well can be and yet keep up a pretense of having something to quarrel over. If Butler should decide to run without the Democratic nomination, the face of the contest would be changed. Butler's candidacy would in all probability result in the election of the Republican nominee, for he would draw most of his votes from the Democracy. He is a platform in himself that would appeal for support to the workingmen and men of every social station who are tired of the dominance of money and Phariseism in our politics. The nature of the attack to which he would be subjected would strengthen him. He would be sneered at as a demagogue, and the answer to that would be that he had earned the name by his long and honorable life as an active partisan of the poor against the oppressions of the rich. The fact that the factory lords of Massachusetts, the preachers whose salaries they pay, and the eminently respectable class generally, who live luxuriously on the labor of the mob, hate Butler, would make him the ideal of the masses. It is his delight to dash into the temple with his whip of thongs and make it lively for the pious money-changers. He is a terror to the whole tribe of Pecksniffs. But while they hate him they are forced to acknowledge his ability. Butler has brains; he is the hardest man in public life to-day to discourage. He goes into a losing fight with as much cheerfulness and vim as into a winning one. He loves to be on the stump, and the yells of anger and pain evoked by the pouring of the vitriol of his sarcasm upon the flesh of Humbug is music to his ear. On the other hand, he has himself the hide of a rhinoceros. When the hosts of the Lord come up against him he meets them with a sardonic grin, and routs them with a fire of irony that puts their own pious speeches to shame. Although himself a millionaire, no one accuses Butler of being in sympathy with the plutocratic spirit. On the contrary, he is unceasing in his antagonism to it. He is a mill-owner, but his tremendous personal following in Massachusetts is made up largely of mill-hands—poor devils who have all the sweetness of their lives squeezed out of them to swell the profits of these masters. They recognize Butler as their friend. He goes into court without fear when a workman is his client, and he has always refused to take the case of a corporation. All his life he has bidden for popularity with the working classes, and he has got it. This is why he is called a demagogue. If he had bidden for favor with the employing classes, he would have been known as a wise and conservative statesman. It is always more respectable to serve the powerful than the weak.

The Democrats hope that Butler will retire from the struggle, rather than aid in the election of the Republican candidate. They argue that he has signed against the Republican party beyond all bonds of pardon, and that it is to the Democratic party he must necessarily look henceforward for preferment. He is getting to be an old man—sixty-six—and is too strewed, they calculate, to waste any of his few remaining years of activity in striving to form an independent party. If they can buy him off with vague promises of good things to be done for him four years from now, they will cheerfully do it. But General Ben is too old a bird to mistake chaff for grain. He knows well enough that no Democratic convention would nominate him unless forced to do it by fear of the harm he might do if refused the prize. Political memories are long lived, and all Democratic recollections of Butler are not pleasant. If he should make the run, and prove that his strength before the people is formidable, there is no telling what the Democratic convention, in its anxiety for success, might not do in 1888. Butler is a natural iconoclast, and he would enjoy the fun of bedeviling all calculations this presidential year. Besides, it may be his opinion that the only way to secure the Democratic nomination four years from now is to show the party that he is able to beat it by running on an independent ticket.

A knowledge of General Butler's character predisposes us to believe that no solicitude for the success of the Democratic nominee this year will move him to hand back the two nominations that have been given him. The Democrats may as well, we think, make up their minds to calculate their chances with Ben Butler in the sum as a distressing factor.—San Francisco.

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ent personal action on the part of the chief executive of the republic. The canvass and administration which it is desired that I should undertake would embrace a period of nearly five years, nor can I admit any allusion as to their burdens. Three years of experience in an endeavor to reform the municipal government of the city of New York, and two years of experience in renovating the administration of the state of New York, have made me familiar with the requirements of such work.

A POSITIVE REFUSAL.

At the present time the considerations which induced my action in 1880 have become imperative. I ought not to assume a task which I have not the physical strength to carry through. To reform the administration of the federal government, to realize my own ideal, and to fulfill the just expectations of the people, would indeed warrant, as they could alone compensate, the sacrifice which the undertaking would involve, but in my condition of advancing years and declining strength I feel no assurance of my ability to accomplish those objects. I am therefore constrained to say definitely that I cannot now assume the labors of an administration or of a canvass, undervaluing in no wise that best gift of heaven, the occasion and the power sometimes bestowed upon a mere individual to communicate an impulse for good. Gratiated beyond all words to my fellow countrymen, who would assign such a benevolent function to me, I am consoled by the reflection that neither the Democratic party nor the Republican, for whose future that party is the best guarantee, does not now nor ever can depend upon any one man for their successful continuous progress in the path of noble destiny. Having given to their welfare whatever of health and strength I possessed or could borrow from the future, and having reached the term of my capacity for such labors, as their welfare now demands, I submit to the will of God in deeming my public career forever closed.

S. J. TILDEN.

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Astoria and Lewis	7:30 A. M.	8:30 A. M.	9:30 A. M.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.
Corvallis	8:30 A. M.	9:30 A. M.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.

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