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SPEECH BY FRANK S. SMITH.

Frank S. Smith, of Angeltica, on being elected Chairman of the Independent Republican County Convention at Belmont, Friday, August 21st, made the following speech:

Members of the Convention: No true man can fail to be sensible of the honor conferred upon him by being chosen as the presiding officer of an assemblage like this Convention, truly representative of all that is noble in Republicanism; a Convention whose members are animated by the same fearless spirit which called the Republican party into being in the holy cause of freedom, and prompted its founders to offer their lives as a ransom for four million of slaves; a Convention whose members are close to the great warm, throbbing hearts of the people, whose credentials are petitions signed by a majority of the Republican voters in the county and who have come together to rebuke fraud; and to denounce those who betray the people and to hasten the glad day when there shall no longer obtain in this State the good old rule, the simple plan, that they may take who have the power, that they may keep who can.

We have assembled not for the purpose of organizing a bolt, but to undo and correct the result of misrepresentation. The people are about to go through this Convention that which their servants faithfully and treacherously failed to do in the last Convention. Fraud vitiates every act; fraud lies at the root of everything, and fraud perpetrated by the late Convention in the nomination of Member Assembly renders that nomination and of no binding force upon Republicanism. This uprising is not a revolution. This Convention is not an expression of tame acquiescence; it is the voice of the people speaking their own, and "the voice of the people is the voice of God."

In the words of the martyred Garfield: "The Republican party drew first inspiration from the fire of the Holy Spirit which God has lighted in every man's heart, and which all the powers of ignorance and tyranny can never extinguish." And when the powers of tyranny in the form of office and ruling masters, although wearing the livery of Republicanism, attempt to extinguish the sacred fire of God, we shall be recreant to the duty we owe to our party and our country if we do not resist. We have been taught by the father that "Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God."

Those who have left farm and workshop and office to come here to-day; and common soldiers in the great ranks of Republicanism, we are not here for promotion. Our only ambition is to do our duty. We have not come here for reward or any hope of office. We are neither door-keepers in the House of Representatives nor in the tents of office holders. We are ready to be led by leaders but refuse to be driven by bosses.

The people are so long suffering and so patient that reckless politicians have time to time undertake by stealth to thwart the will of the people. But, as we are reminded by the mottoes displayed upon the walls of this room, that great man of the people, Abraham Lincoln, said: "You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time." Nor can the self-styled county "organization" that being a fairer name than "party," longer fool the people of this county. They now perceive that the "organization" is a wicked shore, to the most dangerous of all shores, unless they themselves take the good ship will soon be wrecked on the rocks.

though our county has had no nominee for sixteen years. As a reward for this obedience and as a recompense for this manipulation, his indorsement has become the only qualification necessary to obtain appointment to office. To-day he is as full of promises of secretaryships, clerkships and post offices as "the cedars of Lebanon are full of sap." Not content with naming all the present incumbents of office in the county, it is an open secret that he has already designated those who are to take office during the remainder of the century.

The "organization" came into power at the beginning of the present decade, and the Board of Supervisors soon became subject to its control. And with what result to the taxpayers of the county? In 1891, the sheriff's and jailer's account, as audited and allowed by the Board of Supervisors, was \$4,315.12; in 1895, the sheriff and jailer's account, as audited and allowed, was \$7,696.07, an increase of \$3,380.95. In 1891, the amount of miscellaneous account, audited and allowed, was \$2,226.45, while in 1895 the amount was \$5,886.61, an increase of \$3,660.16. The "organization" is doubtless an ornament to the county from an aesthetic point of view, but it is expensive. During the year 1895 the cost of the administration of justice in the county may be safely estimated at not less than \$15,000, while the amount of fines collected was but \$25. The ratio of 16 to 1 has for once been made respectable. What became of the pending indictments for violation of the excise law, and why were they not prosecuted? Was the "organization" thereby made stronger and people poorer? Is this the explanation of the increase in the amounts of audits by the Board of Supervisors?

One member of the "organization" as a member of the Board of Supervisors, had the salary of a public office increased immediately before taking the office himself, although the amount of work required had decreased. The last Board of Supervisors allowed this officer half the amount of his annual salary as additional compensation for civil service performed for the county.

Members of the "organization" hold positions at Washington and Albany, whose annual salaries aggregate many thousands of dollars. This county pays to other members of the "organization" in salaries, fees, and allowances annually, not less than from \$20,000 to \$25,000. Is there not reason enough for the existence of the "organization"? It is a time to remember that "when bad men confederate, good men should combine."

The "organization" annually distributes among its newspapers in the county the sum of \$4,000 of the people's money. When a member of the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Robbins successfully resisted the payment of an illegal amount for printing claimed by two of those who are now chief beneficiaries of the "organization," all through of opposite political parties. Why should the "organization" love him? Is there not reason enough that the "organization" newspapers should be with the "organization" and against the people?

There is but one explanation of the people's complacency in so long and so patiently submitting to ring rule so high handed and so tyrannous. They are permitted, by the grace of the "organization," to have as their representative at Albany a man who was faithful to their interests; a man who was brave enough to pass bills for the protection of the poor against the rapacity of the coal barons; a man who refused to yield even when a too pliant Governor had yielded in advance and asked the withdrawal of the Anti Coal Trust Bill; a man who was jealous of the rights of the rural portions of the state against the aggressions of the Greater New York; a man who would bend to no will but the will of the people. That man was Hon. Fred A. Robbins. But Mr. Robbins must give way to one who would serve the bosses more and the people less. Such is the rate of a public servant who serves the people well, unless the people wake to defend him.

It was ordered that he should be kept at home. The manner of obsequies was cunningly devised. It was thought by raising no more caucuses, by conceding to Mr. Robbins.

but at the same time carefully selecting delegates who would do the will of the "organization" instead of the will of the people, the nomination could be filched from him stealthily and by fraud. It was hoped that the people would sleep on in self-satisfied contentment with the empty forms which proclaim that they are sovereign and that all government is by them. Emboldened by this hope, the "organization" saw to it that there should be no fair submission to the people at the caucuses of the question of Mr. Robbins' return. There was no open canvass of rival candidates resulting in a deliberate choice by the majority. The "organization" knew that such a course would lose them the Convention, nominate Mr. Robbins, and prevent them from controlling the delegation to the State Convention, and put an end to their bosses' rule. Such canvass and such submission of the question to the people were prevented by the assurance of all the members of the organization in private and in public, by conversation, by letter and in the newspapers, that there would be no opposition to Mr. Robbins' return to the Legislature. No effort was put forth by him or by his friends to secure a nomination which was conceded to him. Yet the people in several of the towns, not because of suspicion, but as an expression of their will, instructed their delegations to support him in the Convention. In other towns, instructions were withheld upon the express and repeated assurance by members of the "organization," that Mr. Robbins was to be nominated by acclamation, "SURE!" But a sufficient number of towns instructed their delegations to render his defeat impossible, if those instructions had been obeyed. Not until the last caucus had been held, and within forty-eight hours of the Convention was it known that the people had been tricked, and it had been the pre-determined design of the "organization" to defeat Mr. Robbins. How the design was accomplished was known to all. Passing over the story of delegates bribed and others made drunk, we know that delegates were induced to violate their instructions. And therein was a crime against the people.

We have been taught to have faith in the people. In the darkest hours of secession's night, when the light of the whole nation had gone out with the life of Abraham Lincoln, Garfield exclaimed, "God lives! the people reign!" In fact, the people do reign; the ballot box is their throne and scepter. Their power begins with the caucus and ends with the election. These two are the Holy of Holies, the very Ark of the Tabernacle in the Temple of Liberty; that we have believed, no man dare profane. It has been frequently asserted with confidence that all the ills of our political system can be secured if the people will attend caucuses; but how can their presence at the caucus avail if delegates treat instructions with contempt, and disregard and disobey them? A means of detecting this crime against the people should be provided in every convention, by relegating the secret ballot to its proper sphere, the expression of individual choice, and adopting a practice in accordance with bodies where the few act as the representative of the many, *viva voce* vote.

Those of the organization who committed, or at least sympathized with the commission of crime against the people, witnessed by the late Convention, justify the act, not by the claim that Mr. Robbins had not served the people well, or that he cannot be longer useful to them, but by the transparent excuse that it is the rule of our party to set a representative aside after three terms of service, however able or faithful to the interests of the people he may have been, and to confer the honor upon another, no matter how unfair he may be. This "organization" logic, but it has specially limited application to Member of Assembly, and does not apply to Member of Congress!

But the "organization" also plead that this is not a time for an independent ticket, because we are to have a Presidential election, and because this movement may result in the election of a Democrat, the party thereby losing a vote for United States Senator. Our answer is that the "organization" should have weighed these considerations before they forced the majority of loyal Republicans to repudiate their action. We believe, however, that no man would be less willing to vote for McKinley and Prosperity because he has the opportunity to vote at the same time for Robbins and Honesty, and we are confident that the only way to prevent the election of a Democrat to the Assembly is to nominate and elect Fred A. Robbins.

Guests of the Convention, an offense, not only against right but against American liberty has been committed. If such offenses shall remain unrebuked, then the people are no longer sovereign, but have become slaves. We have assembled here to-day to begin the battle in defense of the rights and liberties of the people of this county against the "Powers of Tyranny"; a corruption under the much vaunted name of the "organization." If we do our duty now we can trust the people to do theirs in November, and to prove by their victory in November that in truth, "The people reign!"

Conference at Alfred.
The feature of the week at Alfred was the holding of the ninety-fourth session of the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference, which commenced at 10 o'clock on Wednesday of last week. The conference was called to order by its President, W. H. Ingham of Milton, Wis. Rev. J. L. Gamble, pastor of the Alfred church, welcomed the delegates, following which President Ingham delivered the annual address in an able manner. The afternoon session consisted in the reading of reports of various committees.

The conference lasted six days, closing Monday night. Each day was occupied by the different societies—Missionary, Education, Tract, etc.—and many very interesting papers were read and discussed by the leading men of the denomination. Saturday witnessed the largest crowd of the week. The regular service was held in the church in the morning, the sermon being delivered by Rev. A. H. Lewis, D. D. of Plainfield, N. J., and an overflow meeting held at the University chapel at the same hour, preaching by Rev. L. F. Randolph, of Chicago, Ill.

Additional Locals.
McKinley and Hobart club meeting next Tuesday evening.
The McKinley and Hobart club will hold regular meetings on the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month until election day.
Mrs. J. C. Cunningham is leaving her rooms over Mourhess' store and storing her goods preparatory to going to Chicago, where she will pass the winter with her sons.

Miss Clara Louise Rice, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. A. E. Rice, of Wellsville, and Everett Henry Ketchum, of Jamestown, are to be married today at the home of the bride, at 5 p. m.

After his twenty-six years in business here, there is reason to believe that Mr. Mourhess is 'going up.' This may be erroneous, but we got a straight 'tip' to the effect that he will soon move into rooms over his store. Isn't that going up?

You cannot say that you have tried everything for your rheumatism, until you have taken Ayer's Pills. Hundreds have been cured of this complaint by the use of these Pills alone. They were admitted on exhibition at the World's Fair as a standard cathartic.

The missionary societies of the M. E. church will hold an entertainment at the home of Mrs. A. D. Brown, Wednesday evening, Sept. 2d. Refreshments served at 6 p. m. Program at 8. Among the attractions will be a missionary talk by Mrs. J. A. Travis of Washington, D. C., reading by Miss Stillson, of Oneida, N. Y., violin music by Mrs. B. G. Estes, and mandolin by Miss Austin. All are cordially invited.

D. D. Remington, the late (not much) lamented weather prognosticator, cold wave promulgator, cloud condenser and cyclone circulator, has applied for a position as "imp" in this office. If he shall be able to pass the civil service examination, can secure competent recommendation and give satisfactory surety, he may be accepted—on probation.

Highway Commissioner Howland was drawing in oats on his farm last Thursday, when his horses became unmanageable, ran down a steep hillside and overturned the loaded wagon. Mr. Howland's foot caught under the binder and he was unable to extricate himself when the wagon capsized. He was severely injured, his left shoulder being dislocated and the scapula broken. He received other contusions. The horses were thrown and entangled in the wreck.

How's your dishes? We have a full stock at very low prices. "The Rack-etc." Williams.

Bicycle for sale. Inquire at this office.

NEAR-BY NEWS.

A Few Outside Happenings in Which Our Readers Will Be Interested.

A hose company, consisting of thirty members, was organized last week at Belmont.

The frame work of the new depot at Alfred Station is up. It is 56x58 feet, and will be covered with an ornamental tile roof.

Miss Jessie Fay, of Allentown, was struck on the head with a base ball, Friday, which rendered her unconscious for some time.

Joe Gillies, who has been ill at Angeltica for several weeks, is again able to be at his post at the Hotel Sherwood at Hornellsville.

At a depth of 130 feet Rushford people struck a vein of pure water. Several wells in that village are now being drilled to that depth.

Mrs. George H. Osborn, of Wellsville, has received \$13,000 from the life insurance companies in which the late Mr. Osborn carried policies.

J. W. Hallahan, an old soldier, and a resident of Alfred for twelve or thirteen years, was buried Sunday afternoon with the G. A. R. service.

A memorial of Harriet Beecher Stowe is suggested in the erection in Washington of a national institute and hospital as a training school for colored nurses.

A son has arrived at the home of William Ingleby at Rushford. Mr. Ingleby is foreman of the Rushford Spectator, and has named the youngster McKinley Hobart Ingleby.

Mrs. E. H. Henderson died at her home in Allentown, Tuesday afternoon of last week. She fell and broke her hip recently and the injury resulted in her death. Mrs. Henderson was a former resident of Andover.

W. G. Tucker, of Elm Vallay, has returned from the Kettanning Fair in Armstrong county, Pa., where he won the first and second premium on herd first and second on cows, first on sheep, and first on sow under one year old. He passed through here Sunday on his way to the Hornellsville Fair.

On Thursday of last week the Heselstine family held a re-union at the home of Norman Heselstine in Whitesville. Those present from this town were: Mrs. H. Mourhess, Volney McCarn, Mrs. J. L. Cunningham, Mrs. Roswin Hardy, Misses Helen and Sylvia and Master Raymond Hardy. J. C. Dyer, Plainfield, N. J., was also present.

Hon. Frank S. Black, of Troy, Representative from the 19th Congressional District, was nominated for Governor at Saratoga today.

Card of Thanks.

I desire to tender thanks to the Macca-bees for their promptness in the payment of \$2,000 on the policy which my husband held in that Order, and to Mr. A. O'Donnell, who assisted me in getting it; and also Austin Tent, No. 38, K. O. T. M., of which my husband was a member. MRS. RICHARD O'BOYLE.

Village Lots for Sale.

I offer for sale a few lots, 3 1/4 x 11 rods, on dry ground, on Barney street, at \$100 each, on easy terms. G. M. BARNEY.

Not one complaint has ever been made by those using Ayer's Sarsaparilla according to directions. Furthermore, we have yet to learn of a case in which it has failed to afford benefit. So say hundreds of druggists all over the country. Has cured others, will cure you.

Tin ware, glass ware and china at Williams'.

School teacher wanted. Apply to F. J. Witter, Andover.

Bryan at Hornellsville—Popular Excursion.

William Jennings Bryan will speak at Hornellsville at 2:30 p. m., on Saturday, Aug. 29th, on the Democratic issues of the campaign. The Erie railroad will run popular excursions, leaving Andover at 9:55 a. m. Round trip only 60c. Returning, leave Hornellsville at 5:25 p. m.

For Sale.

A second-hand covered carriage at a bargain. Inquire of A. M. Burroa.

"The Racket" is adding new goods at nearly every day.