

## TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Following is the President's letter of acceptance:

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8, 1888.  
Hon. Patrick A. Collins, and others,  
Committee:

Gentlemen.—In addressing to you my formal acceptance of the nomination to the Presidency of the United States, my thoughts persistently dwell upon the impressive relation of such action to the American people, whose confidence is thus invited, and to the political party to which I belong, just entering upon a contest for a continued supremacy. The world does not afford a spectacle more sublime than is furnished when millions of free and intelligent American citizens select their chief magistrate and bid one of their number to find the highest earthly honor and full measure of public duty in ready submission to their will. It follows that the candidate for this high office can never forget that when the turmoil and strife which attend the selection of its incumbent shall be heard no more, there must be in the quiet calm which follows, a complete and solemn

**SELF-CONSECRATION,**  
by the people's chosen president, of every faculty and endeavor to the service of a confiding and generous nation of free men. These thoughts are intensified by the light of my experience in the Presidential office which has soberly impressed me with the severe responsibilities which it imposed, while it has quickened my love for American institutions, and taught me the priceless value of the trust of my countrymen.

It is of the highest importance that those who administer our government should closely protect and maintain the rights of American citizens at home and abroad, and should strive to achieve for our country her proper place among the nations of earth; for there is no people whose home interests are so great, and whose numerous objects of domestic concern deserve so much watchfulness and care. Among these are the regulation of a sound financial system, suited to our needs; the securing of an efficient agency of national wealth and general prosperity; the construction and equipment of the means of defense, to insure our national safety and maintain the honor beneath which such national safety reposed; the protection of our national domain, still stretching beyond the needs of centuries, in its expansion, and its preservation for the settler and pioneer of our marvellous growth; the sensible and sincere recognition of the value of human labor leading to scrupulous care and just appreciation of the interests of our workingmen; the limitation and checking of such monopolistic tendencies and schemes as interfere with the advantages and benefits which the people may rightfully claim; generous regard and care for our surviving soldiers and sailors, and for the widows and orphans of such as have died, to the end that while appreciation of their services and sacrifices is quickened, the application of the pension funds to improper cases may be prevented; protection against servile immigration which injuriously competes with our laboring men in the field of toil, and adds to our population an element ignorant of our institutions and laws, impossible of assimilation with our people, and

**DANGEROUS TO OUR PEACE**  
and welfare; strict and steadfast adherence to the principles of civil service reform and the thorough execution of the laws.

Our government is the creation of our people, established to carry out their designs, and accomplish their good. It was founded on justice and was made for a free, intelligent and virtuous people. It is only useful when within their control, and only serves them well when regulated and guided by their constant touch. It is a free government because it guarantees every American citizen the unrestricted personal use and enjoyment of all the reward of his toil and of all his income except what may be his fair contribution to the necessary public expenses. Therefore it is not only the right but the duty of a free people in the enforcement of this guarantee, to insist that such expenses should be strictly limited to actual public needs.

It seems perfectly clear that when a government thus instrumentally created and maintained by the people, to do their bidding, turns upon them and through an utter perversion of its power extorts from their labor and capital a tribute largely in excess of public necessities, the creature has rebelled against the creator, and masters are robbed by their servants. The cost of government must continue to be met by a tariff of duties collected at our custom houses upon imported goods and by an internal revenue tax, assessed upon spirituous and malt liquors, tobacco and oleomargarine.

I suppose it is  
**NEEDLESS TO EXPLAIN**  
that all these duties and assessments are added to the price of the articles upon which they are levied, and thus become a tax upon all those who buy these articles for use and consumption. I suppose it is well understood that the effect of this tariff taxation is not limited to consumers of imported articles, but that the duties imposed on such articles permit a correspond-

ing increase in the price to be made upon domestic productions of the same kind, which increase is paid by all of our people as consumers of such productions, and entering every American home, constitutes a form of taxation as certain and inevitable as though the amount was finally paid into the hands of the tax gatherer.

These results are inseparable from the plan we have adopted for the collection of revenue by tariff duties. They are not mentioned to discredit the system, but by way of preface to the statement that every twenty million dollars, collected at our custom houses for duties on imported articles and paid into the public treasury, represent many millions more, which, though never reaching the national treasury, are paid by our citizens as the increased cost of domestic productions, resulting from our tariff laws.

Under these circumstances, and in view of this necessary effect of the operation of our plan for raising revenue, the absolute duty of limiting the rate of tariff charges to the necessities of a frugal and economical administration of the government, seems to be perfectly plain. The continuance, upon the pretext of meeting public expenditures, of such a scale of tariff taxation as draws from the substance of the people a sum largely in excess of our public needs, is surely something which, under a government based upon justice, and which finds its strength and usefulness in the faith and trust of the people, ought not to be tolerated. While the heaviest burdens incident to the necessities of the government are complainingly borne, light burdens become grievous and intolerable when not justified by existing necessities.

Unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation; and yet this is our condition. We are annually collecting at our custom house by means of our internal revenue taxation,

**MANY MILLIONS**  
in excess of all legitimate public needs. As a consequence there now remains in the national treasury a surplus of more than \$130,000,000. No better evidence could be furnished than that the people are exorbitantly taxed. The extent of the superfluous burden, indicated by this surplus, will be better appreciated when it is suggested that such a surplus alone represents taxation aggregating more than one hundred and eight thousand dollars in a country containing 50,000 inhabitants. Taxation has always been the feature of organized government hardest to reconcile with the people's idea of freedom and happiness. When presented in a direct form, nothing will arouse popular discontent more quickly and profoundly than unjust and unnecessary taxation. Our farmers, mechanics and laborers and all our citizens closely scan the slightest increase in the taxes assessed upon their lands and other property and demand good reasons for such increase; and yet there seems to be a disposition in some quarters to regard the unnecessary volume of insidious and indirect taxation visited upon the people by our present rate of tariff duties, with indifference if not with favor.

The surplus revenue now remaining in the treasury not only furnishes conclusive evidence of unjust taxation, but its existence constitutes a separate and independent menace to the prosperity of the people. This vast accumulation of idle funds represents that much money drawn from the circulating medium of the country, which is needed in the channels of trade and business. It is a great mistake to suppose that the consequences which follow the continual withdrawal and hoarding by the government of the currency of the people, are not of immediate importance to the mass of our citizens, and only concern those engaged in large financial transactions. In the restless enterprise and activity which a free and ready money among the people produce, is found the opportunity of labor to find employment, and that impetus to business and production which bring in their train

**PROSPERITY TO OUR CITIZENS**  
in every station and vocation; new ventures and new investments in business and manufacture.

The construction of new and important works, and the enlargement of enterprises already established, depend largely upon obtaining money on easy terms with fair security. All these things are stimulated by an abundant volume of circulating medium. Even the grain of the farmers remains without a market unless money is forthcoming for its movement and transportation to the seaboard. The first results of a scarcity of money among the people, is the exaction of severe terms for its use, and an increasing distrust and timidity, followed by refusal to loan or advance on any terms. Investors refuse all risks and decline all securities, and in the general fright, money still in the hands of the people, is persistently hoarded.

It is quite apparent that when this perfectly natural if not inevitable stage is reached, the depression in all business and enterprises will, as a necessary consequence, lessen the opportunity for work and employment, and reduce the salaries and wages of labor. Instead of their being exempt from the influence of the immense surplus lying idle in the national treasury, our wage-earners and others who rely upon their labor for support, are most of all,

directly concerned in the situation. Others seeing the approach of danger, may provide against it; but it will find those depending upon their daily toil for daily bread, unprepared, dependent and defenceless. Such a state of affairs does not present a case of idleness resulting from disputes between laboring men and their employers; but it produces an absolute and enforced stoppage of employment and wages.

In reviewing the bad effects of this accumulated surplus and the scale of tariff rates by which it is produced, we must not overlook the tendency toward

**GROSS AND SCANDALOUS**  
public extravagance which a congested treasury induces, nor the fact that we are maintaining without excuse in a time of profound peace, substantially the rate of tariff duties imposed in time of war, when the necessities of government justified the imposition of the weightiest burdens upon the people. Diverse plans have been suggested for the return of this accumulated surplus to the people and the channels of trade. Some of these devices are at variance with all rules of good finance, some are delusive, some absurd and some betray by their reckless extravagance the demoralizing influence of a great surplus of public money upon the judgments of individuals. While such efforts should be made as are consistent with public duty and sanctioned by sound judgment, to avoid danger by a useful disposition of the surplus now remaining in the treasury, it is evident that if its distribution were accomplished another accumulation would soon take its place, if the constant flow of redundant income is not checked at its source by a reform in our present tariff laws.

We do not propose to deal with these conditions by merely attempting to satisfy the people of the truth of abstract theories, nor by alone urging their assent to a political doctrine. We present to them propositions that they are unjustly treated in the extent of the present federal taxation; that as a result a condition of extreme danger exists, and that it is for them to demand a remedy, and that defense and safety promised in the guarantees of their free government. We believe the same means which are adopted to relieve the treasury of its present surplus and prevent its recurrence, would cheapen to our people the cost of supplying their daily wants. Both of these objects we seek in part to gain by reducing the present tariff rates upon the necessities of life. We fully appreciate the importance to the country of our domestic industrial enterprises. In the rectification of existing wrongs, their maintenance and prosperity should be carefully and in a friendly spirit considered. Even such as, by reliance upon present revenue arrangements, have been invited or encouraged, should be fostered.

**ABRUPT AND RADICAL CHANGES**  
which might endanger such enterprises and injuriously affect the interests of labor, dependent upon their success and continuance, are not contemplated or intended.

But we know the cost of our domestic manufactured products is increased and their price to the consumer enhanced by the duty imposed upon the raw material used in their manufacture. We know that this increased cost prevents the sale of our productions at foreign markets in competition with those countries which have the advantage of free raw material. We know that confined to a home market our manufacturing operations are curtailed, their demand for labor irregular, and the rates of wages paid uncertain. We propose therefore to stimulate our domestic industrial enterprises by freeing from duty imported raw materials which, by the employment of labor are used in our home manufactures, thus extending the markets for their sale, and permitting an increased and steady production, with an allowance of abundant profits.

True to the undeviating course of the Democratic party, we will not neglect the interests of labor and our working men. In all efforts to remedy existing evils we will furnish no excuse for loss of employment or the reduction of wages of honest toil. On the contrary, we propose in any adjustment of our revenue laws, to concede such encouragement and advantage to employers of domestic labor as will easily compensate for any difference that exists between the standard wages which should be paid to our laboring men and the rate allowed in other countries. We propose, too, by extending markets for our manufactures, to promote the steady employment of labor, while by cheapening the cost of the necessities of life, we increase the purchasing power of the workingman's wages, and add to the comforts of his home.

Before passing from this phase of the question I am constrained to express the opinion that while the interests of labor should be always sedulously regarded in any modification of our tariff laws, an additional and more direct and efficient protection to these interests would be afforded by the restriction and prohibition of the immigration or importation of laborers from other countries,

**WHO SWARM**  
upon our shores, having no purpose or intent of becoming our fellow citizens, or acquiring any permanent interest in our country, but who crowd every field of employment with unintelligent labor, which ought not to

satisfy those who make claim to American citizenship.

The platform of our party contains the following declaration: "Judged by democratic principles the interests of the people are betrayed when by unnecessary taxation, trusts and combinations are permitted and fostered while only enriching the few that combine for the robbery of our citizens by depriving them as purchasers of the benefits of natural competition." Such combinations have always been condemned by the democratic party. This declaration of its national canon is sincerely made, and no member of our party will be found excusing the existence, or belittling the pernicious result of these devices to wrong the people. Under various names they have been punished by the common law for hundreds of years, and they have lost none of their hateful features because they have assumed the name of trusts, instead of conspiracies. We believe these trusts are the natural outgrowth of a market artificially restricted by an inordinately high tariff, which besides furnishing temptations for their existence, enlarges the limit within which they may operate against the people, and thus increases the extent of their power for wrong doing. With an unalterable hatred towards such schemes, we count the checking of their baleful operations among the good results promised by revenue reform.

While we cannot avoid partisan misrepresentation, our position upon the question of revenue reform should be so plainly stated as to admit of no misunderstanding. We have entered upon

**NO CRUSADE OF FREE TRADE.**

The reform we inaugurate is predicated upon the utmost care for established industries and enterprises, a jealous regard for the interests of American labor, and a sincere desire to relieve the country from the injustice and danger of the condition which threatens evil to all the people of the land. We are dealing with no imaginary danger. Its existence has been repeatedly confessed by all political parties, and pledges of a remedy have been made on all sides. When yet in the legislative body where, under the constitution, all remedial measures applicable to this subject must originate, a democratic majority were attempting with extreme moderation to redeem their pledge, common to both parties, they were met by determined opposition and obstruction, and the minority, refusing to co-operate with the majority of the House of Representatives, or propose another remedy, have remitted the redemption of their party pledge to the doubtful power of the Senate. The people will hardly be deceived by their abandonment of the field of legislative action to meet in political convention and flippantly declare in their party platform that our conservative and careful efforts to relieve the situation is destructive to the American system of protection. Nor will the people be misled by the absurd allegation that we serve the interests of Europe, while they will support the interests of America. They promise in their platform to thus support the interests of our country by removing the internal revenue tax from tobacco and spirits for the arts and mechanical purposes. They declare also that there should be such revision of our tariff laws as shall tend to check the importation of such articles as are produced here. Thus in proposing to increase the duties upon such articles to nearly or quite a prohibition point, they confess themselves willing to

**TRAVEL BACKWARD**  
in the road of civilization, and to deprive our people of markets for their goods, which can only be gained by a semblance at least of an interchange of business, while they abandon our consumers to the unrestrained oppression of domestic trusts and combinations, which are in the same platform perfunctorily condemned. They propose further to release entirely from import duties all articles (except luxuries) the like of which cannot be produced in this country. Plain people of the land and the poor, who scarcely use articles of any description produced exclusively abroad, and not already free, will find it difficult to discern when their interests are regarded in this proposition. They need in their homes cheaper domestic necessities, and these seem to be entirely unprovided for in the proposed scheme to serve the country. Small compensation for this neglected need is found in the further purpose therein announced, covered by the declaration that if after the changes already mentioned, there still remains a larger revenue than is requisite for the wants of the government, the entire internal taxation should be repealed. "Rather than surrender any part of our protective system."

Our people ask relief from the undue and unnecessary burden of taxation now resting upon them. They are offered—free tobacco and free whisky. They ask for bread and are given a stone. The implication in this party declaration that desperate measures are justified or necessary to save from destruction or surrender what is termed our protective system, should confuse no one. The existence of such a system is entirely consistent with the regulation of the extent to which it should be applied, and correction of its abuse. Of course in a country as great as this with such a wonderful variety of interests, often leading in entirely different directions, it is im-

possible to settle upon a perfect tariff plan; but in accomplishing the reform we have entered upon, the necessity of which is so obvious, I believe we should not be content with a reduction of a revenue involving a prohibition of importations and the removal of the international tax upon whisky. It can be better and more safely done within the lines of granting actual relief to the people in their means of living, and at the same time giving an impetus to our domestic enterprise and furthering our national welfare. If

**MISREPRESENTATIONS**  
of our purposes and motives are to gain credence and defeat our present effort in this direction, there seems to be no reason why every endeavor in future to accomplish revenue reform should not be likewise attacked and with a like result; and yet no thoughtful man can fail to see in the continuance of the present burdens of the people, and the abstraction by government of the currency of the country, inevitable distress and disaster. All danger will be averted by timely action. The difficulty of applying a remedy will never be less and blame should not be laid at the door of the democratic party, if it is applied too late.

With a firm faith in the intelligence and patriotism of our countrymen, and relying upon the conviction that misrepresentation will not influence them, that prejudice will not cloud their understanding, and that menace will not intimidate them, let us urge the people's interest and public duty for the vindication of our attempt to inaugurate a righteous and beneficial reform.

**GROVER CLEVELAND.**  
NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 10.—A Jacksonville special says: The official bulletin for the 24 hours is as follows: New cases 31, deaths 6. Total number of cases to date 632. Total deaths to date 78.

NEW YORK, Sept. 10.—Subscriptions for the relief of the afflicted in Jacksonville here today amounted to \$14,331.34. Of this amount \$12,000 was the donation of one man, who refused to give his name. He presented Mayor Hewitt with a \$10,000 gold certificate and two crisp \$1000 bills.

DETROIT, Sept. 10.—A few days ago the Evening Journal of this city started a subscription for the yellow fever sufferers of Jacksonville, and telegraphed the mayor of the city asking for an explicit statement of their needs. The following reply was received this morning:

We thank you for your offer to aid us. Three months of gloom, suffering and death before us with an indigent, helpless people to provide for during that time. Were it not for the sympathy for us and generosity which was so substantially in hand, with it, we should be hopelessly overburdened by our woes. God bless the American people for their great kindness.

(Signed.)  
JAMES M. SCHUMAKER,  
Chairman Finance Committee.

GALVESTON, Sept. 10.—The citizens of Galveston have subscribed \$1,200 for the relief of the Jacksonville sufferers.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 10.—At a meeting of the citizens' relief committee today additional sums subscribed in aid of the Jacksonville fever sufferers were announced amounting to \$3338, making a total of \$4563.

MACON, Sept. 10.—The relief committee tonight authorized the Jacksonville authorities to draw on them for \$1000.

HILLIARDSVILLE, Ala., Sept. 10.—A fearful battle between whites and negroes took place here on Saturday in which seven colored men were killed. The trouble grew out of the fact that a white man refused to allow his well to be longer used by a crowd of "protracted meeting" negroes. One of the negroes expressed his determination to have some of the water and the white man drew his pistol and shot him in the neck. That night a gang of negroes visited the house and dared the white man to come out, but he refused to do so, and after shooting holes in the windows and doors they left. The next night a gang, presumably friends of the white man, visited the negro camps and left seven dead bodies as a reminder to other members of the camp meeting crowd.

MADRID, Sept. 11.—The rivers Xent, Guadalejo and Granada have overflowed their banks, causing great destruction. Villages have been destroyed and bridges swept away. The people have become panic stricken and have taken refuge in the mountains. Many were drowned. Twelve corpses have already been discovered.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 10.—Picayune's Havana special of Sept. 7: The first official dispatch relating to the foundering of the Spanish launch *Lealtad* at Batabano, not Sagua as first reported, arrived today, the messenger being an officer from the gunboat *Guardian*, which rode out to the horn and is now anchored at Batabano. The report states that at 12:30 on the night of the 4th, when the wind shifted from the northwest and west and while endeavoring to slip a cable to beach the vessel under a full head of steam, a huge wave boarded her, washing all hands into the scuppers. Captain Leon Urban, realizing that the loss of the vessel was inevitable, ordered all hands to save themselves, stating he intended to remain by the launch. The pilot, before jumping overboard, beseeched the captain to follow, which he refused and shortly afterward went down with his command. The following morning, and while the hurricane was still at its height, a seaman was discovered from aboard the *Guardian* cling-