

to win, and we want every advantage possible to secure." This was the position of a majority of the committee, and although Milwaukee, Indianapolis, St. Paul, Kansas City, Omaha, and other cities made a gallant fight for it, and Chicago did what she could to help along to realization the aspirations of her neighboring city on the lake, the latter city was chosen.

It had been a hot fight. Milwaukee's supporters, more persistent than any others, stuck by her to the last. Fourteen ballots were taken. On the first Chicago had one, Milwaukee 8, Kansas City 13. That was the highest vote Missouri's second city received. On the eighth ballot Indianapolis received 22, and on the eleventh Milwaukee received the same number.

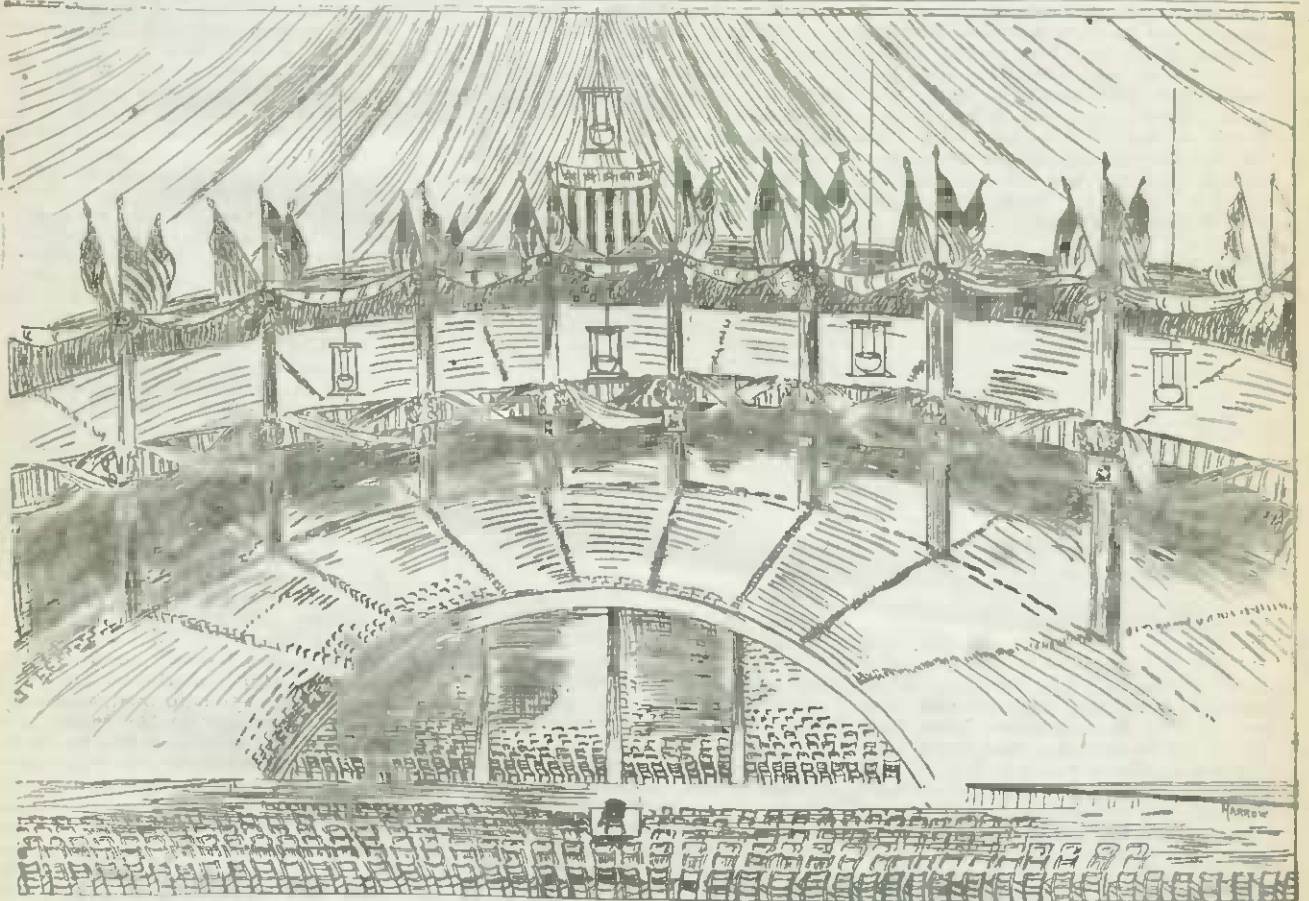
future; visions of the campaign that had begun the day the convention ended its labors, nor did it end till the grand victory of November—reflections such as these could only result one way—on the fifteenth ballot Chicago received twenty-seven votes and was declared the winner.

But the local Democracy, now that it had its prize, did not know what to do with it. The old Exposition building, famous for its national conventions and especially notable as the place in which was named the successful standard bearer in 1884, as well as the defeated knight from Bar Harbor in that same eventful year, had been ordered razed to the ground, and its destruction would be complete before convention time.

But the convention was coming and

ling the Auditorium would result in providing 8,000 seats. All the other cities had agreed to furnish sittings for no less than 15,000. The Auditorium was declared out of the question. So the committee of arrangements determined to build a hall for the especial accommodation of the convention which would seat not less than 20,000 people. To more effectively carry forward the great undertaking, the committee of arrangements appointed two other committees, finance and building.

The next great consideration was raising the necessary money and doing it without loss of time, it being estimated that \$50,000 would be required altogether. With the building complete and equipped, it was considered, and reasonably, that the sales of tickets would return the expenses of the con-



INTERIOR OF THE WIGWAM.

There were 50 votes in the committee, 26 necessary to a choice. There was a deadlock, and no way to open it seemed at hand. Then Brice, Carlisle, Gorman and Henri Watterson got together to talk over the situation. The result of the conference was a telegram from Chairman Brice to Potter Palmer:

"What will Chicago do for the convention, if it comes to you?"

Potter Palmer consulted with a few of the leading hotel men and wired back to Mr. Brice:

"Will do as well as we did in 1884."

That settled it. Visions of the generous entertainment accorded the delegates in that year, so memorable to Democracy, so full of promise for its

future, visions of the campaign that had begun the day the convention ended its labors, nor did it end till the grand victory of November—reflections such as these could only result one way—on the fifteenth ballot Chicago received twenty-seven votes and was declared the winner.

The committee located its headquarters at No. 25 Palmer House, and here Secretary Strain is to be found, looking after a thousand and one details of the approaching convention. The committee was nonplussed, at the outset, to know what to do for a hall. The Auditorium was considered, but that would not do. A Chicago convention means that not less than 20,000 people demand accommodation. An estimated expenditure in remodel-

vention itself and more. It should be understood at this point, that when the Chicago committee concluded terms with the other, the arrangement was that the former were to provide for seating 15,000 persons, including the delegates; but since the building has been under way, the plans have been changed somewhat and a gallery with a capacity of 5000 persons has been put in; all this room goes to the local committee, and if the convention should last as long as that at Minneapolis—that is, four days—with every seat sold every day at more or less "fancy" prices, it can easily be seen that the chances are much better for a surplus than a deficiency.

The building committee energetically took hold of the gigantic task of