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AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 30.—The following is General Hancock's letter of acceptance:

GOVERNOR'S ISLAND,
New York City,
July, 29th, 1880.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 13th, 1880, apprising me formally of my nomination to the office of President of the United States by the National Democratic Convention, lately assembled in Cincinnati. I accept the nomination with a grateful appreciation of the confidence reposed in me.

The principles enunciated by the Convention are those I have cherished in the past, and that I shall endeavor to maintain in the future.

The thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, embodying the result of the war for Union, are inviolate. If called to the Presidency I shall deem it my duty to resist with all my power any attempt to impair or evade the full force and effect of the Constitution which in every article, section and amendment is the supreme law of the land. The Constitution forms the basis of the Government of the United States. The powers granted by it to the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Departments define and limit the authority of the general government. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, belong to the States respectively or to the people. The general and State government, each acting in its own sphere, without trenching upon the lawful jurisdiction of the other, constitutes the Union. This Union, comprising a general government with general powers and State government with State powers for purposes local to States, is a polity, the foundations of which were laid in profoundest wisdom. This is the Union our fathers made and which has been so respected abroad and so beneficent at home. Tried by blood and fire it stands to-day a model form of free, popular government—a political system which rightly administered has been and will continue to be the admiration of the world. May we not say, nearly in the words of Washington: The unity of government, which constitutes one people, is justly dear to us. It is the main pillar in the edifice of our real independence, the support of our peace, safety and prosperity and of that liberty we so highly prize and intend at every hazard preserve; but no form of government, however carefully devised, no principles, however sound, will protect the rights of the people unless the administration is faithful and efficient.

It is a vital principle in our system that neither fraud nor force must be allowed to subvert the rights of the people. When fraud, violence or incompetence controls, the noblest constitutions and wisest laws are useless. The bayonet is not a fit instrument for controlling the votes for a free people. It is only by a full vote, free ballot and a fair count, that a people can rule in fact as required by the theory of our Government. Take this away and the whole structure falls.

Public office is a trust, not a bounty, bestowed upon the holder. No incompetent or dishonest person should ever be entrusted with it, or if appointed, they should promptly be ejected.

Our material interests, varied and progressive, demand our constant and united efforts. A sedulous and scrupulous care of public credit, together with a wise and economical management of our government's expenditures should be maintained, in order that labor may be lightly burdened and that all persons may be protected in their rights to the fruits of their own industry.

The time has come to enjoy the substantial benefits of reconciliation. As one people, we have common interests. Let us encourage harmony and a generous rivalry among our own industries, which will revive our languishing merchant-marine, extend our commerce with foreign nations, assist our merchants, manufacturers and producers to develop our vast material resources and increase the prosperity and happiness of our people.

If elected, I shall, with Divine favor, labor with what ability I possess to discharge my duties with fidelity, according to my convictions, and shall take care to protect and defend

the Union and see that the laws will be faithfully and equally executed in all parts of the country alike. I will assume the responsibility fully sensible of the fact that to administer rightly the functions of the government is to discharge the most sacred duties that can devolve upon an American citizen.

I am, very respectfully yours,
(Signed) W. S. HANCOCK.

To Hon. John W. Stevenson, President of the Convention; Hon. John P. Stockton, Chairman, and others of the Committee of the Democratic Convention.

To Hon. John W. Stevenson, Hon. John P. Stockton and others, Indianapolis.

GENTS:—I have now the honor to reply to your letter of the 13th inst., informing me that I was unanimously nominated for the office of Vice-President of the United States by the convention which assembled at Cincinnati. As foreshadowed in the verbal remarks made by me at the time after the delivery of your letter, I have now to say that I accept the high trust with a realizing sense of its responsibility and am profoundly grateful for the honor conferred. I accept the nomination upon the platform of principles adopted by the convention, which I cordially approve, and I accept it quite as much because of my faith in the wisdom and patriotism of the state-man and soldier nominated on the same ticket for President of the United States. His eminent services, his fidelity to the Constitution, the Union and the laws, his clear perception of the correct principles of government, as taught by Jefferson, his scrupulous care to keep the military in strict subordination to the civil authorities, his high regard for civil liberty, personal right and rights of property; his acknowledged ability in civil as well as in military affairs, and his pure and blameless life—all point to him as a man worthy of the confidence of the people. Not only a brave soldier, a great commander, a wise statesman, a pure patriot, but a prudent, painstaking, practical man of unquestioned honesty, trusted often with important public duties, faithful to every trust and in the full meridian of ripe and vigorous manhood, he is, in my judgment, eminently fitted for the highest office on earth—the Presidency of the United States. Not only is he the right man for the place, but the time has come when the best interests of the country require that the party which should never be forgotten nor forgiven should go out of power.

Many of the men now in office were put there because of their corrupt and partisan service in thus defeating the fairly and legally expressed will of the majority. The hypocrisy of the professions of that party in favor of civil service reform, was shown by placing such men in office and turning the whole brood of Federal office holders loose to influence elections. The money of the people taken out of the public treasury by these men for services often poorly performed, or not performed at all, is being used in vast sums with the knowledge and presumed sanction of the Administration to control elections, and even members of the cabinet are strolling about the country, making partisan speeches, instead of being in their departments at Washington, discharging public duties for which they are paid by the people. But with all their cleverness and ability, a discriminating public will no doubt read between the lines of their speeches that their paramount hope and aim is to keep themselves or their satellites four years longer in office. The perpetuating of the power of chronic Federal office holders will not benefit the millions of men and women who do not hold office, but earn their daily bread by honest industry. What they think will disarm public opinion will no doubt be fully understood as also the fact that it is because of their own industry and economy, and God's bountiful harvest, that the country is comparatively prosperous, and not because of anything done by these Federal office holders. The country is comparatively prosperous not because of them, but in spite of them. This contest is in fact between the people endeavoring to regain a political power which rightfully belongs to them, and to restore the pure, simple, economical constitutional government of the fathers on the one side and a hundred thousand Federal office holders and their backers, hampered with place and power and determined to retain them at all hazards on the other. Hence constant assumption, new and danger-

ous powers by general government, under the rule of the republican government, interference with home rule and with the administration of judges in courts in several States, interference with elections through the medium of paid partisan Federal office holders interested in keeping their power, and caring more for that than fairness in elections. In fact, constant encroachments which have been made by that party upon the clearly reserved rights of the people and the States, will, if not checked, subvert the liberties of the people to the government's limited powers, created by the fathers, and end in a great consolidated, concentrated government, strong indeed for evil and the overthrow of republican institutions.

The wise men who framed our Constitution knew the evil of a strong government, and the long continuance of political power in the same hands. They knew there was a tendency in this direction in all governments, and a consequent danger to republican institutions from that cause, and took pains to guard against it. The machinery of strong centralized general government can be used to perpetuate the same set of men in power from term to term until it ceases to be a Republic, or is such only in name, and the tendency of the party now in power in that direction, as shown in various ways besides the willingness recently manifested by a large number of that party to elect a President an unlimited number of terms, is quite apparent and must satisfy thinking people that the time has come when it will be safest and best for that party to be retired; but in resisting the encroachments of a general government upon the reserved rights of the people and States, I wish to be distinctly understood as favoring a proper exercise by the general government of powers rightfully belonging to it under the Constitutional rights of the general government. All interference with the proper exercise of its powers must be carefully avoided. The Union of States under the Constitution must be maintained and it is known that this has always been the position of both candidates on the Democratic Presidential ticket. It is acquiesced in everywhere now and finally and forever settled as one of the results of the war. It is certain beyond all questions that the legitimate results of the war for the Union will not be overthrown or impaired should the Democratic ticket be elected. In that event proper protection will be given in every legitimate way to every citizen, native or adopted, in every section of the republic in the enjoyment of all the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and its amendments.

A sound currency of honest money of a value and purchasing power corresponding substantially with the standard recognized by the commercial world and consisting of gold and silver and paper convertible into coin, will be maintained. The labor and manufacturing, commercial and business interests of the country will be favored and encouraged in every legitimate way. The toiling of our own people will be protected from the destructive competition of the Chinese, and to that end their emigration to our shores will be properly restricted. Public credit will be scrupulously maintained and strengthened by a rigid economy in public expenditures and the liberties of the people and property of the people will be protected by the Government, law and order administered strictly in the interests of all people and not of corporations and a privileged class.

I do not doubt the discriminating justice of the people and their capacity for intellectual self-government, and, therefore do not doubt the success of the democratic ticket. Its success would bury beyond resurrection the sectional jealousies and hatred which have so long been the chief stock in trade of pestiferous demagogues, and in no other way can this be so effectually accomplished. It would restore harmony and good feeling between all sections and make us in fact as well as in name one people. The only rivalry then would be in the race for the development of National prosperity, the elevation of labor, enlargement of human rights, the promotion of education, morality, religion, order and all that would tend to make us the foremost Nation of the earth in the grand march of human progress.

I am with great respect,

Very truly yours,

WM. H. ENGLISH.

The jury in the *Seawanhaka* case find that 35 passengers came to

their death through that disaster, and that the fire was caused by the bursting or collapse of a boiler tube. The boiler had been duly inspected in March last. The jury believed the loss of life would have been less had the crew been properly disciplined to act in the case of such an emergency, and recommended that the ceilings, wall and floors of steam-boat fire rooms be encased in metal.

BALTIMORE, 30.—Captain Ozias M. Parsons, of the schooner *George Washington*, which arrived at this port from Jamaica last Tuesday, reports that on July 5th, while off Cape May, at the eastern point of Cuba, his schooner was boarded and searched by the officers of a steamer bearing the Spanish flag, and after he had run up the American colors the Spaniards came on board with officers and 10 armed men, and the search continued even after the senior boarding officer had seen the schooner's papers.

WASHINGTON, 31.—Commissioner Williamson, of the General Land Office, has received a letter from a prominent firm engaged in stock raising in Colfax County, New Mexico, urging upon the Land Department the importance and necessity of further legislation for the protection of the large and growing class of stock-breeders who, without legal sanction have taken up and improved extensive tracts of arid land on our western plains. The writer states that they have established cattle ranches on arid pasture lands on the north edge of what are known as the staked plains, in Colfax County, New Mexico. Their ranch covers an area of one hundred square miles, or 640,000 acres, around which they have built a fence so as to keep within these bounds their own cattle, and to keep out the stock of others. They have also dug wells to supply their stock with water, and altogether they have expended in needed improvements more than \$10,000. They assert that this tract of land can never be used for agricultural purposes as it lies at a higher altitude than the nearest stream of water, which is thirty miles distant. They also inform the commissioner that some evil disposed ranchmen threaten to cut down their fence and let in their cattle, simply because they (the writers) have no title to the lands.

In conclusion they ask protection from the government and propose to either purchase the land or else secure a long lease and so acquire a valid title either permanently or temporarily. Gen. Williamson says: The facts presented in this letter are strong, illustrative of the need for additional legislation to govern the disposal of the surplus lands, legislation which, if enacted, will enable the government to dispose of land of the peculiar character referred to in this letter, which cannot, under the present laws, be sold to stock raisers in such large quantities as are necessary to make this industry a profitable one. These gentlemen, Gen. Williamson says, are engaged in a business in itself perfectly legitimate which, owing to the vast extent of arid public lands, fit only for grazing purposes, would undoubtedly be stimulated and increased if our land laws were amended and improved so as to permit the sale of large tracts of these pasture lands to individuals. As the case stands now they are open trespassers against the law and their property cannot in any way be protected by the government. More than this, the government cannot, under existing statutes sell or even lease these pasture lands to them in the large quantities desired, and so it may be said that our land laws hinder rather than foster cattle raising, an industry which of all others should be fostered as it tends to cheapen food. Under existing law the public land is classified as mineral, coal, timber and agricultural lands. Under the head of agricultural land is included land of the character referred to in this letter, viz., arid, pasture land, which is entirely worthless at present and which will probably always be so at least for agricultural purposes. These lands cannot be disposed of to individuals in quantities larger than tracts of 160 acres, neither can they be leased to them for the general land office and general government cannot assist these men nor protect in the squatter sovereignty rights which they have established by improvements they have made to the property they own in the tract of land which they have fenced in.

NEW YORK, 31.—The *Times* special says: The Minnesota wheat crop is likely to reach 44,000,000 bushels. Crop reports from Wisconsin indicate a smaller and inferior yield to

that of last year. The total is at 15,000,000 bushels. Iowa medium quality and twenty cent better yield and the acreage. Dakota also has a prospect of an extraordinary yield, from 15 to 30 bushels an acre, fifty per cent. increased acre. The Michigan product is estimated at 35,000,000.

Dr. Tanner had four spells vomiting during yesterday. At 1 o'clock last night he retired to bed and was soon in a restless slumber from which he awoke at 10:15 requested that a wet towel be put on his head, which seemed to him, and he was given an ounce of mineral water. He continued less but at midnight appeared sleepy. During the 24 hours, less than a gill of spring water, ingested at midnight, he drank about a pint of carbonic acid water, less than a gill of spring water.

Since the conventions were nine post offices throughout country have been called Gar and one Hancock.

The democratic journals are immensely pleased with Hancock's letter. *The Sun*, however, evidently sarcastically says: "It is rather statesmanlike document to emanate from a 'mere soldier' as our republican friends call him, in the acknowledged absence of Judge Blaine, is as broad and comprehensive as the continent, as elastic as rubber and as sweet as honey." Hancock makes only one mistake that we notice. He speaks of "classes of our people." A true democrat ought to know that we have only one class. We suppose the den would not write for any one but himself.

BOSTON, 31.—No material demand for fair and prices steady firm, but trade is slow, manufacturers being quite indifferent to a future wants, and holders equally indifferent about selling. As the wool in the market could be replaced at the current rate demand has again run largely combing and delaines. Much fleeces, spring California and lines of super pulled fine move slowly with very little inquiry. The transaction in combing and laine fleeces embrace all the able lots offering, and in California wool. The total sales this amount to 719,000 pounds spring 52,000 pounds fall, the largest several months.

CHICAGO, 31.—In view of the that in spite of Bricklayer's being \$3 and laborers \$1.75 per many building enterprises in city have suspended, because masons cannot get hands. The Masons and Builders Association night resolved to invite laborers other cities to come to Chicago the members pledge themselves furnish strangers with work the secretary of the Association. There is work for 250 men of masons at once.

DENVER, 31.—The *Republican* special says that the of Colorado was attached morning on a check of \$290 they were unable to pay on account of E. T. Lane, cashier, having scolded with the funds of the Amount of loss to deposition stated.

NEW YORK, 31.—General Hancock's letter dated Carondelet St. Louis, Mo., December 28, in reply to two letters from General Sherman on the situation, is to the public. After acknowledging General Sherman's letters, excusing his delay in answering first, and some remarks on weather, in which he says St. is the coldest place in winter the hottest in summer of had encountered in the temperate zone, he goes on to say:

When I heard the rumor was ordered to the Pacific I thought it probably true. Considering past discussion as to the subject, the possibilities seemed to point that way. Had it been I should of course have presented complaint; nor made resistance any kind, I would have gone if not prepared to go promptly, certainly would have been relieved from the responsibilities and ties concerning Presidential terms which may fall to those on the throne or in authority, the next four months, as from other incidents or matters which I could not control and concerning which I might not prove. I was not exactly prepared to go to the Pacific, however, therefore felt relieved when I received your note informing me there was no truth in the rumor. Then I did not wish to appear escaping from responsibility and possible dangers.