

CLEVELAND AND THE PRESIDENCY

Says He is Not Desirous of Carrying the Democratic Banner.

BUT HE IS VERY GRATEFUL

William J. Bryan Attacks the Ex-President in a Most Violent Manner—He Can't Get Nomination.

Athens, Ga., May 9.—In reply to a letter from R. F. Holder, Jr., editor of the Athens Banner, in which was given the result of a poll of the business men of Athens, showing a strong sentiment for the nomination of Mr. Cleveland, and which contained this question: "Are you now considering or would you consider making the race for the presidency next year on the Democratic ticket?" ex-President Cleveland writes as follows:

"Princeton, N. J., May 6, 1903.

"R. F. Holder, Jr.:
"Dear Sir:—I thank you for your letter of the 4th inst. and for the editorial clipping from your paper which accompanied it. I cannot fail to be gratified by the kindly expressions which frequently come to me in these days from all parts of our country, and I desire to thank you for your loyal support in the past, and for your exceedingly friendly expressions toward the Democratic party in the future. In answer to the question with which you conclude your letter, I can say no more than to assure you that at no time since the close of my last administration have I been desirous of carrying the Democratic banner for the fourth time in a presidential contest.

"Yours truly,

"GROVER CLEVELAND."

BRYAN ATTACKS EX-PRESIDENT.

Newark, N. J., May 9.—The News has the following from its Lincoln (Neb.) correspondent: William J. Bryan received the News correspondent very cordially today at his country residence, four miles from this city. A typewriting machine was clicking busily in an upstairs room, and the farm hands were at work in the adjoining fields. Mr. Bryan's red brick house is more modern and much more pretentious than the somewhat old-fashioned one at Grover Cleveland at Princeton. Mr. Bryan would not submit to an interview unless the questions were written and the answers recorded verbatim as he spoke them. He gave me the following answers to recent questions. Mr. Bryan was the first question.

"Not since I was a member of Congress," he replied.

"You were invited to the dedication exercises of the St. Louis world's fair, were you not?"

"Yes, I went to St. Louis, but I went to the world's fair convention, and left there one day before the dedication ceremonies began."

"The seat assigned you for the dedication was not on the grand stand with President Roosevelt and former President Cleveland, but on the annex to the grand stand?"

"No, it was not on the grand stand; it was on the annex. I looked at the Cleveland and former President Cleveland, but on the annex to the grand stand."

"But Mr. Cleveland has apparently come out of retirement, and many suppose he is seeking the nomination," remarked the News man.

"I am not in Mr. Cleveland's confidence," said Mr. Bryan, "and, therefore, cannot give any inside explanation; but as an outsider I venture to say that his purpose is to positively refuse to be a candidate after awhile, and then allow his friends to pick one to be accepted or declined without any particular importance being attached to it. I simply declined the invitation."

"Is it possible for Grover Cleveland to receive the Democratic nomination next year, Mr. Bryan?"

"There is not the remotest possibility of it," Cleveland became very emphatic. "Even his staunchest friends will not risk him as a candidate," said Mr. Bryan.

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Keep a good supply of Ayer's Family Medicine on hand. It's so easy then to take one of the Pills at bedtime if you feel a little bilious, or if your stomach is a trifle out of order. Just so with the Sarsaparilla. A few doses will bring back your lost appetite, give strength to your weakened nerves, and relieve you of that terrible feeling of exhaustion. And besides there are the children to think of. A dose or two at the right time often means so much.

DIABOLIC WORK OF THE MAFIA

Sent Infernal Machine to Load on The Umbria.

WAS NOT TAKEN ON BOARD.

Box Contained One Hundred Pounds of Dynamite—Determination is to Make War on British Steamers.

New York, May 9.—An infernal machine connected with 100 pounds of dynamite was found in a box on the Cunard pier today. According to the expert opinion of the superintendent of the bureau of combustibles, the box was found and put into the river just in the nick of time to prevent it from exploding and demolishing the pier and the Umbria, which was alongside and about to sail. The box was left at the pier yesterday in an apparent attempt to have it placed aboard with the baggage of the passengers. The Umbria sailed a few minutes after the box was discovered and all on board were in ignorance of the attempt to place the infernal machine aboard the vessel.

The discovery of the box was due to the following letter, received at police headquarters today, addressed to Commissioner Greene:

"Dear Sir:—The Mafia greets you and wishes you well."

"At the Cunard dock is a box containing 100 pounds of dynamite. Inside also is a machine, properly set, and explodes itself any time within 30 hours."

"The society has declared war against England and has ordered the destruction of every steamer flying the British flag that sails out of New York harbor."

"The machine in the box, the first made, and a crude affair, is enclosed simply to show how easy it is to sink a steamer, and to convince those interested in the society is not making idle threats."

"The society has undertaken to clear New York harbor of British ships, and it will succeed."

"The reason for this movement the society does not wish to disclose. Suffice it to say that the society, in order to protect itself, must carry the war into the enemy's country and it goes without saying that it proposes to wage it as fiercely as it knows how."

"This is the society's first and last warning, and those who propose to obstruct the society must take their chances in the future."

"The society asks and gives no quarter, so, lay on, lay on, Macduff, and damned be he that first cries 'Hold, Enough!'"

"PIETRO DE MARTINI."

"P. S.—The battery is not attached, fuses without caps and lighters, not to be used, and there is no danger in handling the box."

The letter was mailed at the general postoffice this morning. Detectives were at once sent to the pier and the arrangements being made that the Umbria would not sail until the box was found or it was proved that it was not on the pier or on the vessel.

The search of the passengers' baggage the search was found in the middle of a large pile of baggage near the gangway of the first cabin passengers. Two detectives, who saw the box, the box was carried to the end of the pier. The passengers had no intimation of what was going on, and, therefore, no one was frightened. The box was opened and a light was thrown on it. The box was in motion. A rope was fastened about the box and it was gingerly lowered into the water.

After the Umbria had sailed the pier was cleared of everyone except the men from the bureau of combustibles, and the box was raised and placed carefully on the pier.

The box was found to be 40 inches long, 20 inches wide and 20 inches deep, made of new pine, unpainted, of good workmanship and strongly built, the top being fastened with a heavy cable and lock. A slight examination of the box at the pier showed that it contained 100 pounds of dynamite, and that the fuse in the box had been ignited. When the box was lowered into the water, the fuse was found to be in motion. A rope was fastened about the box and it was gingerly lowered into the water.

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