

NEWS

The work of the democratic national convention at Kansas City, the gathering and preliminary proceedings of which were reported last week, came to an end on the 6th with the nomination of Adlai E. Stevenson for vice president of the United States, William Jennings Bryan having been nominated on the 5th for president.

In last week's issue we were able to tell only of the assembling of the convention on the 4th, of the election of Gov. Thomas, of Colorado, as temporary chairman, and of Congressman Richardson, of Tennessee, as permanent chairman, and of the keynote speech of ex-Gov. Altgeld, of Illinois, who, though not a member of the convention, was invited to address it. The proceedings of this day had been varied, and special significance given to them, by the formal reading of the American declaration of independence and the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" and "America." On the morning of the 5th the national committee offered a resolution, which was carried, appointing a committee of nine to confer with the populist and the silver republican parties. No other business was done at the morning session, owing to the failure of the committee on resolutions to make its report. This committee had been in session all night trying to agree upon a platform. The question at issue was whether the platform of 1896 should be simply reaffirmed, without any repetition of its text, or should be reaffirmed as a whole and repeated as to the demand for free coinage of both gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. During the deliberations of the committee Mr. Bryan, who remained at home in Lincoln, advised his friends in Kansas City that he would decline to be the candidate for president if a specific 16 to 1 declaration were not inserted in the platform. When this point came to a vote, the committee decided by a vote of 26 to 24 in favor of inserting such a declaration. With only this narrow majority against them, several of the minority were determined to carry the question to the floor of the convention; but upon consulting their respective delegations, they were in every instance instructed to join in no minority report. So the platform, unanimously recommended by the committee on resolutions, came before the conven-

tion at the opening of the afternoon session on the 5th. It was read with dramatic power and effect by Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, and was at once adopted by the convention by acclamation. Besides setting forth the issues of the campaign with true discrimination and unusual boldness, this platform is unique in its literary quality. Instead of being a jumbled patchwork of phrases, it is a complete literary composition. We print it in full in the department of Miscellany.

Closely following the adoption of the democratic platform, W. D. Oldham, of Nebraska, came forward to nominate Mr. Bryan for president. His closing words were the signal for a long and enthusiastic demonstration, at the end of which a series of seconding speeches was made, including one by David B. Hill, of New York, and one by Mrs. Cohen, a delegate from Utah. Then the voting began. Every state as called cast its full vote for Mr. Bryan, and at nine o'clock at night he was declared the unanimous nominee of the convention.

Immediately upon the opening of the session of the 6th, the convention proceeded to the selection of a nominee for vice president. The leading candidates were Adlai E. Stevenson, of Illinois; David B. Hill, of New York, and Charles A. Towne (the populist nominee), of Minnesota. Hill, who had been nominated by the New York delegation against his will, promptly made a dignified speech declining. The result of the voting was as follows:

State	Stevenson.	Towne.	Hill.
Alabama	3	5	19
Arkansas	11	3	..
California	15	3	..
Colorado	8	..	..
Connecticut	9	3	..
Delaware	4	..	2
Florida	4	..	4
Georgia	26	..	..
Idaho	..	3	3
Illinois	48	..	..
Indiana	28	2	..
Iowa	26	..	..
Kansas	20	..	..
Kentucky	26	..	..
Louisiana	..	..	16
Maine	10	2	..
Massachusetts	6	11	13
Michigan	23	5	..
Minnesota	..	18	..
Mississippi	18	..	..
Missouri	23	3	6
Montana	2	..	3
Nebraska	6	10	..
Nevada	..	2	4
New Hampshire	8	..	..
New Jersey	..	..	20
New York	..	..	72
North Dakota	..	..	6
Oregon	5	1	2
Pennsylvania	64	..	..
Rhode Island	8	..	..
South Carolina	18	..	..
South Dakota	2	6	..
Tennessee	..	..	24
Texas	30	..	..

Utah	6	..	..
Vermont	8	..	..
Virginia	24	..	..
Washington	..	8	..
West Virginia	12	..	..
Wisconsin	21	3	..
Wyoming	6	..	..
Alaska	6	..	..
Arizona	5	1	..
District of Columbia	6	..	..
Indian Territory	6	..	..
Oklahoma	3½	2½	..
New Mexico	5	1	..
Hawaii	..	..	6
Totals	559½	89½	200

For local favorites the following vote was cast:

- Carr—Montana, 1; North Carolina, 22.
- Hogg—Missouri, 1.
- Danforth—Missouri, 1.
- Patrick, Ohio, 46.
- Smith—Maryland, 16.

There was no second ballot, but votes were rapidly changed for Mr. Stevenson, so that the chairman was able to announce his unanimous nomination upon the first ballot. The proceedings of the convention were closed with a speech by John Brown, president of the Colored Democratic league.

The new national committee of the democratic party organized on the 6th by electing as chairman Senator James K. Jones, of Arkansas; as vice chairman, W. J. Stone, of Missouri; as secretary, Charles A. Walsh, of Iowa, and as sergeant-at-arms, John I. Martin, of Missouri.

On the day on which the democratic convention met at Kansas City, the silver republican convention met in the same city. Senator Teller was temporary chairman, and L. W. Brown, of Ohio, permanent chairman. Twenty-one states and two territories were represented. Nearly 200 of the delegates declared that they had voted for Abraham Lincoln. The convention nominated Bryan for president, and referred the matter of a vice presidential nominee to the national committee, which afterward endorsed Stevenson. This was announced in an address, in which the committee explained:

We find the democratic party has again placed itself right on the money question, right on the question of trusts and monopolies, right as the champion of the declaration of independence and of constitutional government, right in expressing its sympathy for other nations who only ask "that which you would that others should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."

The democratic candidate for president is ours, our convention named him. Upon the fundamental propositions above stated we are one with the democratic and the people's party. Our common candidate for president is

enlisted, heart and soul, in this great cause. We know he has the high courage of his convictions. His triumph is necessary if we are to hand down to our children and our children's children a government founded in the wisdom of the fathers, maintained by the blood and treasure of its citizens, and perpetuated as a priceless heritage. Impelled by these considerations, your national committee has determined that its duty in this hour is to indorse Adlai E. Stevenson as our candidate for vice president, in order that the opposition to the gold standard, trusts and monopolies, imperialism and all its attendant evils may concentrate its votes at the danger point and accomplish the triumph of those principles so dear to us. It is but simple justice to say that in taking this action we are following the advice of our distinguished leader, Charles A. Towne.

The first democratic ratification meetings of the campaign were held at Lincoln, on the 10th. One, held in the afternoon by the populists and free silver republicans jointly, was addressed by Mr. Bryan, Mr. Towne and Gen. Weaver; the other, held at night by the democrats, was addressed by Bryan, Towne, Stevenson and Webster Davis.

Turning from party politics to the world's politics, in which the United States has become a factor, the complications in China are first confronted. The situation there is as much a news puzzle as ever. But little that is authentic can be added to the report of last week, in which we told of the probable desperate circumstances of the foreign colony in Peking and the refusal of the viceroys of the southern and central provinces to recognize the usurper Tuan. The American consul general at Shanghai reported on the 7th that the legations and foreigners were safe on the 3d, when a runner to Shanghai had left Peking. The dispatch, though its trustworthiness depends upon the veracity of the runner, was somewhat reassuring. It was followed on the 8th by one to the effect that Prince Ching, the former president of the tsung-li-yamen, or foreign office, had, with 10,000 followers, started a counter revolution in Peking against the Tuan faction, and that he was protecting the legations from attack. This report, which emanated from Sheng, the director general of telegraphs at Shanghai, has been partially confirmed by the English Admiral Bruce, who notified his government that he had grounds for believ-

ing the Sheng dispatch to be trustworthy.

A Chinese imperial decree of June 26 was presented on the 11th to the foreign offices of the respective powers by the Chinese ambassadors and ministers. It explains the domestic outbreak and the efforts to suppress it, gives assurance of the safety of the legations, and charges the war with the powers to their unprovoked attack of June 20 upon the Chinese forts at Taku. When the Chinese minister at Washington delivered this decree to Secretary Hay, Mr. Hay referred to the possibility of communication with Peking, to which its receipt bore witness, and demanded that the Chinese government put the American government in immediate communication with the American minister at Peking.

Fighting at Tientsin, which appears to have been going on since the return of Admiral Seymour from his Peking expedition (see page 199), June 27th, has been of the fiercest description. During the past two weeks the Chinese, who have been receiving reinforcements at an alarming rate, have furnished the allies a great surprise by their dogged persistence and aggressiveness, as well as by their effective use of modern arms and artillery, with which they seem well equipped. Though sustaining heavy losses and numerous repulses, they have succeeded in cutting off communication with Taku by land and in making the investment an exceedingly close and harassing one. The latest reports from Tientsin tell of the safe removal of all women and noncombatants to Taku on the 4th, and the retaking of the native quarter by the Chinese after terrific fighting on the 5th, 6th and 7th. These reports tell also of the vigorous bombardment on the 8th and 9th of the foreign quarters by the well-served Krupps of the Chinese. The allied garrison in Tientsin, whose casualty list on the 2d amounted to more than 600, though hard pressed and somewhat short of provisions, are said to be in no serious danger, owing to the reinforcements rapidly arriving at Taku. Among these is the Ninth United States infantry, from Manila, which arrived on the 9th.

Although the allied powers refuse to recognize a state of war in China, and regard the present affair as a do-

mestic uprising against the lawful Chinese government, they are making elaborate preparations to mobilize a huge force at Taku preparatory to marching on Peking. Japan has been given full authority by other powers to send immediately an army large enough to control the situation until the other powers can complete their preparations, and has accordingly dispatched 15,000 troops and arranged to transport 50,000 more. All the European powers expect to be represented by large quotas at Taku before August 15. The United States has made preparations to send out 6,000 regulars, to be drawn from Cuba and garrisons in this country as fast as transport service can be secured. In addition to these another regiment of infantry and a battery of artillery are to leave Manila for Taku at once.

The complications of the United States with European powers in China serve to emphasize the fact that the American war in the Philippines is still far from ended. In the scouting in Luzon during the week ending on the 8th 11 American soldiers were killed and 16 wounded. Submissions to the amnesty proclamation are said to be coming in slowly.

American casualties in the Philippines since July 1, 1898, inclusive of all current official reports given out in detail at Washington to July 12, 1900, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900. see page 91)	1,847
Killed reported since May 16, 1900.	31
Deaths from wounds, disease and accidents reported since May 16, 1900	138
Total deaths since July 1, 1898.	2,016
Wounded	2,190
Total casualties since July, 1898.	4,206
Total casualties reported last week	4,148
Total deaths reported last week.	1,969

Great Britain's war in South Africa, like the American war in the Philippines, still holds out, notwithstanding the expectations noted last week (pages 199-200) that Lord Roberts's enveloping movement, described the week before at page 185, would soon subdue the Boers. The British casualties from June 5 to July 5, were 3,000, of which number 1,200 were deaths; and several engagements are reported from that part of the Orange