REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HARVARD REPUBLICAN MEETING: HELD AT TREMONT TEMPLE, BOSTON. FRIDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 2, 1888 Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

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VARIOUS

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Report of the Proceedings

OF THE

HARVARD REPUBLICAN MEETING

-HELD AT-

TREMONT TEMPLE, BOSTON

Friday Evening, November 2, 1888

Cambridge Wm. H. Wheeler, Printer 1889



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90.

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'92.

S. E. Carpenter.

Roy Jones.

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T. W. Lamont.

INTRODUCTION.

THE Presidential campaign of 1888 was one of great interest at Harvard. A persistent effort had been made for four years to show that the best thought of Harvard University was Democratic. The Republican students believing that to allow this impression of Harvard thought and opinion to go uncontradicted would place them and the University in a false position, resolved that if it was necessary for Harvard to go into politics, she should be fairly represented. In order to adopt some means to give fitting expression to their views, a meeting was called on October 18th, and the Republican Club of Harvard Univer-SITY was organized. Officers were elected and an executive committee appointed from the Law School and the Cambridge departments of the University. The Club was welcomed by the students with an enthusiasm rarely seen in Cambridge, and within the next two weeks the signatures of 817 members of the University were placed on its rolls.

From the beginning, a plan for a public meeting had been in the minds of the members, and the co-operation of prominent graduates enabled the Executive Committee to put the plan into execution. Tremont Temple, Boston, was secured for the evening of Friday, November 2nd, and some of the most eminent graduates in Massachusetts were engaged to make addresses.

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The unique character of the meeting, and the eminent names which were upon the list of speakers, had resulted in assembling the largest gathering which Massachusetts had ever seen at a political meeting. Upon opening the doors, every foot of available space in Tremont Temple was immediately filled. The Meionaon was then secured for an overflow meeting and this was as quickly filled. Still the crowd packed the corridors and extended far into the street, to the serious interruption of travel. It was estimated that there were at least 4500 people in the two halls, and as many more were unable to gain admission.

The temper of the audience was in keeping with the importance of the occasion. The speakers received the closest attention for three hours and a quarter. Their telling points were greeted with intense enthusiasm, accompanied by the waving of flags, which lent a picturesque effect to the scene. As each speaker advanced to the desk, he was greeted with the Harvard Rah! Rah! Rah! from the students and graduates who filled the floor of Tremont Temple. A pleasing feature was the singing of "Fair Harvard" by the entire audience standing, accompanied by Baldwin's Cadet Band, as the speakers of the evening ascended the platform.

Upon the platform were seated the fifty vice-presidents of the meeting, all Harvard graduates, and their names testified to the position of the Republican party among the eminent men of Massachusetts. There were also upon the platform, Hon. Oliver Ames, Governor of the Commonwealth, Hon. Henry B. Pierce, Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, Congressman Hayden, Hon. A. W. Beard, and many others foremost in the councils of the Republican party.

THE MEETING.

At 7.45, Mr. Boyden, President of the Club, called the meeting to order and said:

ADDRESS OF W. C. BOYDEN.

Fellow-students, Ladies and Gentlemen: There are some Republicans at Harvard. [Great applause.] meeting is held under the auspices of the Republican Club of Harvard University, which has an enrolled membership of 817 names. [Great applause, followed by the college cheer.] We believe it to be the largest political club ever organized in any collegiate institution in this country. Our club had its beginning in an organization to answer the impression which went forth from the Harvard tariff reform meeting. You all heard extensively after that meeting, that the educated sentiment of the country was away from Republicanism. The poll of Harvard College gave a Republican plurality of 160, and this magnificent meeting shows where the educated sentiment of [Great applause and cheers.] In behalf of Harvard is. the Republican Club I desire to thank the graduates who are to speak to you to-night for their presence and assistance in this good work. We are also indebted to the many other graduates, who have lent their counsel and their names to make this meeting a success, and to prove to the country that Harvard men, old and young, are with the party of liberty and progress in 1888, as they were so conspicuously in 1861. [Cheers.] I now have the pleasure of introducing to you as the presiding officer of this meeting, one who is very near to every Harvard man, the Rev. Edward Everett Hale.

Dr. Hale, upon rising, was received with prolonged applause and the college cheer. When permitted to proceed, he spoke as follows:

ADDRESS OF REV. E. E. HALE.

It is by no means a new thing, fellow-citizens, for Harvard men to express themselves, and to express themselves with a good deal of enthusiasm [laughter], in any crisis of the country. In the beginning the men who laid the foundations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts laid the foundations of Harvard College, and there would not have been any Commonwealth of Massachusetts if there had not been Harvard College first. [Great applause.] may well go farther and say that the first steps in the history of this nation were taken when such men as Sam Adams and John Adams, and General Ward and General Warren and Otis, and the rest of the Harvard graduates of that time, met here in Boston, conferred on the best ways of defying King George, and carried their determinations into effect. No Constitution of Massachusetts, or of the United States, had not John Adams and Lowell and Gerry, and Bowdoin and Cooper, and the men who worked with them, made the studies which they made, while they lived in old Stoughton and old Massachusetts. [Applause.] No battle of Lexington, no Bunker Hill, no Dorchester Heights, had it not been for Warren and Ward and Pickering and the rest who worked at their side. [Applause.] And let me not speak of Massachusetts alone. The first chartered union of the colonies was the union of Massachusetts and Connecticut and Virginia in Phi Beta Kappa. I have not been told what are the politics of the Institute of 1770 to-day. But I know what they were in 1770 [laughter] in the days which made 1770 a year to be marked with red chalk in history. I know that the young men who formed that society, formed it because they meant that America should be a

nation, because they meant to throw off the rule of every oligarchy, and because they believed, as you believe to-day, in the rights and the responsibilities of all sorts and conditions of men. [Applause.] It is a pleasure for a man who cherishes his Harvard memories, to run down the line of her history and see that she has always been true to the people. True, there have always been Tories like Samson Blowers and Count Rumford, who wished they had been born under another flag, and gave in their adhesion to the politics of Europe and its political systems. There may be such to-day. [Laughter.] But, take it for all in all, from the moment of Sam Adams's famous Commencement theme (whether it be lawful to resist the Chief Magistrate if the Commonwealth cannot otherwise be preserved) down to this day, the leading men of the college have thrown in their work and their word for the people of America. [Applause.]

Let those people be black or white or even red; let their hands be hard or let them be tender: let their work be with the pickaxe or with the pen; the American system of politics teaches that government is of the people, for the people, and by the people. It is not government by a superior class of cotton planters, as in Texas or Carolina. It is not government by a select coterie of liquor dealers, as in the lower wards of New York. It is a government by the people, which aims to make happy homes, which makes them by trusting the intelligence of the people, by the better education of the people, and in which the men who have been most favored by education, throw in their lot as brothers with their brothers, understanding that he who is greatest among you shall indeed be the servant of all. [Applause.] This is the determination which in a time of crisis, say in 1861, brings right to the front such men as Charles Francis Adams and Edward Everett, as Charles Sumner and Wendell Phillips and Waldo Emerson, such men as George Robinson and the brothers Hoar, such