

**DOCUMENTS AND ADDRESSES
OF I.M. WESTON, WHILE
MAYOR OF GRAND
RAPIDS, MICH. 1888-9. PP. 1-144**

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I. M. WESTON

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DOCUMENTS AND ADDRESSES

OF

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^{speeches}
I. M. WESTON

WHILE MAYOR OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

1888-9

NEW YORK
The Knickerbocker Press
1889

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DOCUMENTS AND ADDRESSES

NOMINATED FOR MAYOR.

The Democrats and Greenbackers met in convention at Grand Rapids, Michigan, March 29, 1888, to nominate candidates for city offices.

The nomination of mayor was first in order, and Mr. T. F. Carroll arose and urged the name of Mr. I. M. Weston. No other candidates were presented, and Mr. Weston was nominated on the first ballot. A committee, consisting of Henry Fralick, George R. Perry, and George N. Davis, was appointed and sent out to notify the nominee and bring him before the convention. They returned with Mr. Weston, who, upon being introduced, spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:—I have been notified by your committee that you have nominated me as your candidate for mayor, and I accept this kind assurance of your confidence.

I appreciate the honor you have conferred. As you well know I have not sought this position, but I belong to that class of Democrats who believe that, under ordinary circumstances, no citizen should decline an unsolicited nomination tendered by the people. I am pledged, of course, to support the nominees of this convention, and assure you of my best work for the success of the ticket in the coming election.

My friends have kindly mentioned my name on previous occasions for this office, but I never felt at liberty to allow its use, as my business kept me from the city too much, but I am so situated this year that any prolonged absence will be unnecessary.

Grand Rapids is no longer a country village; she is a manufacturing city of 75,000 inhabitants; she is progressive, and demands a broad and comprehensive policy of public improvements. She has already accomplished much in that direction; her City Hall stands as a grand monument to the enterprise, taste, and intelligence of the officials charged with its erection. The school-houses, the bridges, the streets, and the system of lighting are all sources of pride to our citizens. Much more remains to be done; but taxation in this city has reached a limit

beyond which it must not and cannot go. I believe that with a fair and equitable valuation by our assessors and careful economy by all our departments of city government, a material reduction in the rate of taxation can be made. While we are progressive, we must be economical. Again thanking you and my friends generally for this new mark of confidence, I promise faithful service in behalf of all our union ticket until the close of the polls on election night.