



PRESIDENT LINCOLN AND FAMILY

the highest office in the Republic. He was the chairman of the convention. When Ohio was reached on the first ballot for President the leader of the delegation announced its full vote for William McKinley. This was the signal for an outburst of applause from floor and gallery, as spontaneous as it was vociferous. Hurried consultations were held by many State delegations, and amid the cheers and applause which still continued one leader after another arose to the change of his State to McKinley. The Major, evidently deeply affected by the demonstration, but firm and composed, rose in his place and said:—

“I challenge the vote of Ohio.”

DETERMINED TO VOTE FOR HIM.

“The gentleman is not a member of the delegation at present,” said Governor Foraker, who was chairman of the Ohio representatives.

“I am a delegate from that State,” cried McKinley, in tones that could be heard above the confusion and uproar, “and I demand that my vote be counted.”

“Your alternate voted for you,” Governor Foraker persisted.

The vote of the delegation was polled nevertheless, and the solitary vote which was cast for Harrison, was Major McKinley’s. Harrison was nominated, and Chairman McKinley, calling Colonel Elliott F. Shepard to the chair, moved to make the nomination unanimous.

“Your turn will come in ’96,” shouted one of the 182 delegates, who, despite his protest, voted for him in that convention. This prophecy was fulfilled.

Two things commended Mr. McKinley mightly to the average man—he could fight and he loved his wife. While these at first thought seem to be virtues common enough, yet he who has them has not far to go to make him a man complete. He also loved children with the pathetic love of the man whose name will live only in history, for the two children of his early married life died, and his wife was a confirmed invalid.

It was early in his struggles with the law in Canton that William McKinley met Ida Saxton, a beauty, the daughter of the richest banker in the town, and a girl after his own heart. He has never got over the surprise and joy which filled his soul, when, having made up his mind to put his future happiness to touch, he asked Ida Saxton to be his wife and she said yes. It is said that her father confirmed this when along with his parental blessing he said: "You are the only man of all that have sought her that I would have given her to."

It was in 1871, after he had won his first success at the bar and had been successful as Prosecuting Attorney. They went to housekeeping in the same house to which he returned after his long service in Congress and his two terms as Governor. In that pleasant little villa his two children were born. One lived to be nearly four years old, while the other died in early infancy.

LARGE HEART AND WARM NATURE.

It was soon after the birth of the second daughter that the fact became apparent that Mrs. McKinley would be a lifelong invalid. Much could be written of the tenderness of the strong and virile man to his invalid wife, but the idle gossip which has already been written upon that subject has hurt where it was thought to comfort. Newspapers have thoughtlessly dwelt upon this affliction, singing praises of his constancy and devotion when even kind words carried with them a penetrating sting.

It is enough to say that this husband and wife have never been parted except during exigent work in campaigning. During his service as Congressman in Washington she was always with him, embroidering the slippers which constituted her principal employment in his absence until the number which solaced the sufferers in hospitals is said to amount to nearly four thousand. From Congressional duty to his wife and back to duty was the round of his Washington life.

While Governor of Ohio four rooms in the Chittenden House in Columbus were their home. An early breakfast and he was off to his executive duties. It was remarked that he always left

his hotel by a side entrance, and when well across the street he turned and lifted his hat, while a handkerchief fluttered for an instant from the window of his home. Then the Governor, with a pleased smile, walked jauntily off toward the State House. This was repeated every evening, showing that loving watch was kept at that window. Occasionally, weather and health permitting, Mrs. McKinley indulged in a carriage ride, her husband always accompanying her. Always on Sunday the Governor took an early train for Canton, and going to his mother's house, accompanied her to the First M. E. Church of which he was a member. He was superintendent of its Sunday-school until public duty took him to Washington.

HIS PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

Major McKinley was five feet seven inches in height and as straight as Michael Angelo's statue of David. He undoubtedly looked like the great Napoieon, although he said more than once that he did not like to be reminded of the resemblance. He had the same grave, dignified mouth, the same high, broad and full forehead and the same heavy lower jaw. He was a better looking man than was Napoleon, and his bright, dark eyes shone out under brows which were less heavy than those of Bonaparte, and his frown was by no means so terrible as that of the Little Corporal. He appreciated, however, the value of dignity, always dressed in a double-breasted frock coat and crowned his classic head with a tall silk hat.

Personally, Major McKinley was a charming man to meet. His presence was prepossessing, though in conversation he rarely developed brilliancy or ready wit. Dignity and repose, rather than force and action, appeared as his strong characteristics to the man who met him casually. Yet his campaigns showed that when time for action came he could go through labor that wears out a corps of experienced reporters, and come out of the immense strain of six weeks' constant canvass with little loss of flesh and comparatively few signs of fatigue. The Gubernational campaign of 1893 was notable in this respect.

With the chances favoring him and business depression prevailing, many a man would have trusted something to luck and worked less persistently and energetically than under other circumstances. But that was not McKinley's way. He realized that his boom for the Presidency depended very largely upon the size of his majority, and worked like a Trojan. Those who followed him in the famous Congressional campaign of 1890 against John G. Warwick, and again in 1891, when he canvassed the State against Campbell with such signal success, and were a third time with him in 1893 say that he worked as never before.

In the speeches he made one notable characteristic was always prominent. He did not make enemies. No one ever heard McKinley abuse a political opponent from the stump. Few men have ever heard him speak with disrespect or malignity of one in private life. Only among his close confidants, and they were carefully chosen and not numerous, did he allow himself to speak his mind fully.

ELECTED AND INAUGURATED.

After a very exciting campaign in 1896, Mr. McKinley was elected President, and was inaugurated with most imposing ceremonies in March, 1897. His administration was characterized by wise and successful statesmanship, and as the period for a new election drew near it became evident that he would be again the unanimous choice of his party to be their standard-bearer in the campaign of 1900.

An extraordinary session of Congress was called by President McKinley two days after he took the oath of office on the steps of the Capitol. It met in pursuance to his proclamation at noon on March 15. The special message transmitted by him to both Houses on the opening day was brief. It explained the deficiencies in the revenues, reviewed the bond issues of the last administration, and urged Congress promptly to correct the then existing condition by passing a tariff bill that would supply ample revenues for the support of the Government and the liquidation of the public debt.

No other subject of legislation was mentioned in the message, and the tariff bill was the all-absorbing feature of the session. The Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee of the preceding House had been at work throughout the short session, which ended March 4, giving hearings and preparing the bill which was to be submitted at the extra session.

Three days after the session opened the Tariff bill was reported to the House by the Ways and Means Committee, and thirteen days later, March 31, 1897, it passed the House. It went to the Senate, was referred to the Committee on Finance, and the Republican members of that committee spent a month and three days in its consideration and in preparing the amendments, which were submitted to the Senate May 4. Its consideration was begun in the Senate May 7, and exactly two months later, July 7, it passed the Senate with 872 amendments.

TARIFF BILL PROMPTLY SIGNED.

The bill then went to conference, where, after a ten days' struggle, on July 17, a complete agreement was reached by which the Senate receded from 118 amendments and the House from 511. The others, 243 in number, were compromised. The conference report was adopted by the House July 19, at the conclusion of twelve hours of continuous debate. The report was taken up in the Senate July 20, and adopted Saturday, July 24. The Tariff bill was signed by the President the same day.

In August President McKinley promulgated amendments to the civil service rules which elicited enthusiastic praise from civil service reformers. The order considered of most importance provided "that no removal shall be made from any position subject to competitive examination except for just cause and upon written charges filed with the head of the department or other appointing officer, and of which the accused shall have full notice and an opportunity to make defense."

Through the Hon. Stewart L. Woodford, American Minister to Spain, our Cabinet at Washington addressed a note in

September to the Spanish government concerning the war in Cuba, urging that the most strenuous efforts be made to bring it to an end, and offering mediation between the contending parties. Spain's reply, which was received in November, was considered satisfactory and not likely to lead to any rupture between the two countries.

In February, 1898, an incident occurred which created universal comment. A letter was written by the Spanish Minister at Washington, Senor De Lome, reflecting seriously upon President McKinley, in connection with the policy our administration was pursuing toward the government of Spain with regard to the insurrection in Cuba. This letter was written by De Lome to a friend, but failed in some way to reach its destination, and was made public. Public indignation was expressed at this perfidy of the Spanish Minister, and he was compelled to resign.

INSURRECTION IN CUBA.

The struggle in Cuba for independence continued to be the one absorbing topic that occupied the attention of Congress. General Weyler ordered all the inhabitants of Cuba who were suspected of sympathizing with the insurgents into the town, where they were left to obtain the necessaries of life as best they could. This act, which was pronounced inhuman by the American people, resulted in the death of tens of thousands of men, women and children by starvation. Meanwhile, accurate reports of the appalling situation in Cuba were brought by several members of Congress who visited the island with a view to ascertaining the exact facts.

These reports so inflamed the Senate and House of Representatives that a number of resolutions were introduced demanding that belligerent rights should be granted to the Cubans, and further that the United States should intervene with force of arms to end the war in Cuba, and secure the independence of the island. These resolutions, which were referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, were indicative of the temper of Congress.

A profound sensation was created by the destruction of the United States battleship "Maine" in the harbor of Havana. The "Maine" was lying in the harbor, having been sent to Cuba on a friendly visit. On the evening of February 15, a terrific explosion took place on board the ship, by which 266 sailors and officers lost their lives and the vessel was wrecked. The cause of the explosion was not apparent. The wounded sailors of the "Maine" were unable to explain it. The explosion shook the whole city of Havana, and the windows were broken in many of the houses. The wounded sailors stated that the explosion took place while they were asleep, so that they could give no particulars as to the cause.

The Government at Washington and the whole country were horrified at the destruction of one of our largest cruisers and the loss of so many of our brave sailors. The excitement throughout the country was intense. The chief interest in the "Maine" disaster now centered upon the cause of the explosion that so quickly sent her to the bottom of Havana harbor.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

A Naval Board of Inquiry went to Havana and proceeded promptly to investigate the causes of the explosion that destroyed the battleship.

Upon receiving the report of the Board of Inquiry, President McKinley transmitted it to Congress, and with it a message which he closed as follows:

"In view of these facts and of these considerations I ask the Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of the hostilities between the Government of Spain and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, ensuring peace and tranquillity and the security of its citizens as well as our own, and to use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes.

"And in the interest of humanity and to aid in preserving

the lives of the starving people of that island, I recommend that the distribution of food and supplies be continued, and that an appropriation be made out of the public treasury to supplement the charity of our citizens.

"The issue is now with Congress. It is a solemn responsibility. I have exhausted every effort to relieve the intolerable condition of affairs which is at our doors. Prepared to execute every obligation imposed upon me by the Constitution and the law, I await your action."

Congress debated a week over the recommendations contained in the President's message, and on April 18, both Houses united in passing a series of resolutions calling for the intervention of the United States to compel Spain to withdraw her forces from Cuba, and thus permit the authorities at Washington to provide the island with a free and independent government. The demand contained in the resolution was sent to the Spanish Minister at Washington on April 20, who at once called for his passports and left for Canada.

AMERICAN MINISTER LEAVES MADRID.

On the same date the ultimatum of our Government was sent to United States Minister Woodford, at Madrid, who was curtly handed his passports before he had an opportunity of formally presenting the document. These transactions involved a virtual declaration of war, although Congress did not formally declare that war actually existed until April 25, dating the time back to the 21st.

The North Atlantic Squadron was immediately ordered to blockade the Cuban ports, and on April 22 proceeded to carry out the order. On the same date the United States gunboat "Nashville" captured the Spanish merchantman "Buena Ventura" in the Gulf of Mexico. In this capture the first gun of the war was fired. The next day President McKinley promulgated a resolution calling for 125,000 volunteers. On the same day, Morro Castle, commanding the harbor of Havana, fired on the United States flagship "New York" but without doing any damage. Subse-

quent events comprised the capture of a number of Spanish vessels by Admiral Sampson's squadron.

Stirring news from our Asiatic fleet was soon received. On May 1, Admiral Dewey practically destroyed the Spanish squadron in the harbor of Manila, Philippine Islands, capturing nine vessels and inflicting a loss of 400 killed and 600 wounded. The capture of the Spanish fleet at Santiago, on July 3, and the victories of the American army in Cuba, resulting in the surrender of all the Spanish troops in the province of Santiago, prepared the way for Mr McKinley to sign a peace protocol in August and a treaty of peace with Spain in December.

With a firm hand he conducted the difficult and delicate diplomacy and pushed on the war that freed Cuba, brought the Philippine Islands under the authority and government of the United States, and restored peace to the combatants.

WAR COULD NOT BE AVERTED.

As to his policy in view of the necessary legislation for our new possessions, and his purpose to govern them in such a way as to advance their welfare and to secure for them the largest liberty, he declared in an eloquent speech before the Ohio Society in New York that every obligation of our Government would be fulfilled

"After thirty-three years," he said, "of unbroken peace came an unavoidable war. Happily, the conclusion was quickly reached, without a suspicion of unworthy motive or practice or purpose on our part, and with fadeless honor to our arms. I cannot forget the quick response of the people to the country's need and the quarter of a million men who freely offered their lives to their country's service. It was an impressive spectacle of national strength. It demonstrated our mighty reserve power and taught us that large standing armies are unnecessary when every citizen is a 'minute man' ready to join the ranks for national defence.

"Out of these recent events have come to the United States grave trials and responsibilities. As it was the nation's war, so are its results the nation's problems. Its solution rests upon us all. It is too serious to stifle. It is too earnest for

repose. No phrase or catchword can conceal the sacred obligation it involves. No use of epithets, no aspersion of motive by those who differ will contribute to that sober judgment so essential to right conclusions.

"No political outcry can abrogate our treaty of peace with Spain or absolve us from its solemn engagements. It is the people's question and its determination is written out in their enlightened verdict. We must choose between manly doing and base desertion. It will never be the latter. It must be soberly settled in justice and good conscience, and it will be. Righteousness which exalteth a nation must control in its solution.

DECLARATION AGAINST IMPERIALISM.

"There can be no imperialism. Those who fear it are against it. Those who have faith in the Republic are against it. So that there is universal abhorrence for it and unanimous opposition to it. Our only difference is that those who do not agree with us have no confidence in the virtue or capacity or high purpose or good faith of this free people as a civilizing agency, while we believe that the century of free government which the American people have enjoyed has not rendered them irresolute and faithless, but has fitted them for the great task of lifting up and assisting to better condition and larger liberty those distant people who have, through the issue of battle, become our wards.

"Let us fear not. There is no occasion for faint hearts, no excuse for regrets. Nations do not grow in strength and the cause of liberty and law by the doing of easy things. The harder the task the greater will be the result, the benefit and the honor. To doubt our power to accomplish it is to lose faith in the soundness and strength of our popular institutions. The liberators will never become the oppressors. A self-governed people will never permit despotism in any government which they foster and defend.

"Gentlemen, we have the new care and cannot shift it. And, breaking up the camp of ease and isolation, let us bravely and hopefully and soberly continue the march of faithful service and

falter not until the work is done. It is not possible that seventy-five millions of American freemen are unable to establish liberty and justice and good government in our new possessions. The burden is our opportunity. The opportunity is greater than the burden. May God give us strength to bear the one and wisdom so as to embrace the other as to carry to our distant acquisitions the guarantees of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Beyond the administration of affairs connected with our war with Spain and the Filipino insurgents, and the appointment of officials to govern Hawaii, Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, the chief measure of public importance during Mr. McKinley's administration was the enactment, at his recommendation, of the new currency law, whereby the gold standard has been established and our currency laws are made to correspond with those of the most enlightened nations of the earth.

DECISIVE DEMAND FROM TURKEY.

A claim was made against Turkey by our Government for damages inflicted upon Americans during the massacres in Armenia. This claim amounted to \$90,000, and the Turkish government, with its customary dilatory tactics, evaded the payment of it. It was Mr. McKinley's determined purpose to collect the amount due for Turkish depredations. Accordingly he made a demand for payment. A month passed and no notice was taken of the communication from our State Department. On the 23d of May, 1900, Mr. McKinley authorized another demand to be made upon Turkey, and in terms implying that the next communication would be an ultimatum conveyed by a battleship. The whole amount was afterward collected.

These public acts indicate the heroic qualities Mr. McKinley exhibited during his administration. With a high purpose to serve his country, with consummate tact and wisdom in conducting public affairs, with exalted patriotism and a noble resolve to promote the welfare of the people in all parts of our broad land, he discharged the responsible duties of his high office to the entire satisfaction of his party.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE GENEALOGY OF THE MCKINLEY FAMILY.

The following genealogical sketch of President McKinley, was prepared by the Rev. A Stapleton, of Carlisle, Pa.

"It should be a matter of regret to all true historians that the campaign histories of President McKinley were erroneous in several important genealogical details. The data herein given may be relied on as correct, as they are the result of researches in the court records and other authorities still extant.

"The ancestors of President McKinley belonged to that sturdy race of people called the Scotch-Irish, so called because in 1607 King James I. located a large number of Scots in the northern part of Ireland on lands from which the Irish had been evicted. These settlements were gradually augmented by immigration until eventually the Scotch-Irish element predominated in this region. They were stanch Presbyterians in faith and in course of time developed traits and peculiarities so marked as to almost stamp them as a distinct race.

SUFFERED MANY HARDSHIPS.

In course of time this noble people were overtaken by many hardships, such as the successive failure of crops, besides very unsatisfactory civil and religious conditions. Their only source of relief was in immigration to America, in which they were encouraged by agents of the American colonies. After 1715 the immigration became very extensive, the chief port of arrival being New Castle, on the Delaware, below Philadelphia.

"The Scotch-Irish being citizens of the British realm their arrival is not a matter of record like that of the Germans, Swiss, Dutch, etc., who are designated as foreigners in the Colonial records, and were required to subscribe to an oath of allegiance upon arrival, besides a subsequent naturalization. Hence it follows that citizens of the realm are more difficult to identify than foreigners by the historian. Our only recourse is in tax lists, land warrants, court records, etc.

"In the case of President McKinley we have an undisputed record to his great-grandfather, David McKinley. We know that

he was a Revolutionary soldier, that he was born in York county, Pa., that he removed to Westmoreland county after the Revolution, and in 1814 to Ohio, where he died. In the cemetery of the Chatfield Lutheran Church in Crawford county, Ohio, may be seen two modest granite markers with the following inscriptions: 'David McKinley, Revolutionary soldier. Born, 1755; died, 1840, and Hannah C. Rose, born 1757; died 1840.'

"David McKinley was the father of James, born September 19, 1783, married Mary Rose, of Mercer county, Pa., and removed thence to Chatfield, where he purchased a farm, on which he died. He was the father of William McKinley, Sr., born in 1807, and died in Canton, O., in 1892. The latter was the father of President McKinley. Hannah C. Rose, buried by the side of David McKinley, was the great-grandmother of the President. She was also the great-grandmother of former Mayor Rose, of Cleveland.

RECORDS AT LANCASTER AND YORK.

"For the history of the family prior to David, the soldier, we must rely on the courthouse records at Lancaster, and York, Pa. From various documents and entries we think the evidence incontrovertible that David McKinley, the head of the clan McKinley in America, landed at New Castle, and located in (now) Chanceford township, York county, Pa., in 1743. At that time he was well along in life. He was accompanied by his wife, Esther, and three sons, John, David, Stephen, and a daughter, Mary. There are frequent references to these sons in the county archives.

"The immigrant was a weaver by trade, but, like all thrifty artisans of that day, he secured a good homestead. It is possible, but not probable, that he arrived in the province earlier than 1743, but in this year his name first appears on the records in a warrant for 316 acres of land on a beautiful elevation overlooking the Susquehanna river in the distance.

"That he was a man of enterprise is shown in the fact that in 1749 he circulated a petition for a public highway, which he also presented to court. The following year he was made super-

visor, and doubtless had the task imposed on himself to engineer his road to completion. His name occurs frequently in the most honorable way, showing him to have been a man of unusual probity and worth as a citizen.

"David McKinley, the immigrant, died intestate in 1757, leaving his wife and children as already named. His daughter was intermarried with Samuel Gordon. The settlement of the estate shows personal property to the value of of £220, or \$1,100, besides the plantation, which was divided. Later, however, the son John (who, with his mother, was the executor) purchased the entire estate.

SECOND GENERATION COMES INTO VIEW.

"This leads us to the consideration of the second generation, viz., John McKinley, eldest son of the immigrant. Before entering upon details we here throw out the precautionary statement that the names McKinley and McGinley are both contemporaneous and interchangeable in our early records, owing to the carelessness of scribes. They were, however, separate families in York county. The McGinleys proper came from James McGinley, who died in York county in 1755, leaving an only son, John. No relationship is known to have existed between the families, although remotely it might have been the case. The President's ancestors, so far as we have ascertained, always wrote their name as now.

"Resuming our narrative of the McKinleys, John, son of the immigrant, was born about 1728, and in his day was one of the foremost men of York county. He became a large land owner and frequently figures in important business transactions. When hostilities broke out with the mother country he stanchly supported the Revolution and was made wagon master for Chanceford township by the Committee of Safety. He died on his estates February 18, 1779, being survived by his widow, Margaret, an only son, David, great-grandfather of the President, and daughters Esther, Jean, Elizabeth and Susan. The widow subsequently married Thomas McCulloch. She died in the winter of 1781.

"This leads us down to David McKinley, grandson of the immigrant and great-grandfather of the President. He was born on the old homestead in Chanceford township, May 16, 1755. In 1776 he enlisted in Captain Reed's Company of Ferrymen in the war of the Revolution. This was the the Seventh Company of the Eighth Battalion of York county militia. The militiamen, it should be remembered, were called out in emergencies and were drafted in sections for active service making what were then called tours of service. In this way nearly all the militia of Pennsylvania saw many tours of service, much hard fighting and the most perilous kind of military life.

"The local historians of York County had been in correspondence with the President respecting his York County antecedents. He had expressed himself as much gratified by their researches and interest in his ancestry, and faithfully promised, at an opportune time, to visit the scenes of his ancestral abode. Several dates for the proposed visit were partly agreed upon, and great preparations for the visit were in prospect when the critical events preceding the outbreak of the Spanish War compelled successive postponements of the visit.

"As a matter of interest we may add that a muster roll of the company of which his great-grandfather was a member, and ever since the Revolution in the possession of the descendants of Colonel John Hay, was some years ago presented to the President and received by him with many expressions of delight and satisfaction."