

upon all the rescued peoples. The largest measure of self-government consistent with their welfare and our duties shall be secured to them by law. To Cuba independence and self-government were assured in the same voice by which war was declared and to the letter this pledge shall be performed.

"The Republican party, upon its history and upon this declaration of its principles and policies, confidently invokes the considerate and approving judgment of the American people."



CHAPTER XXIV.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S LATER DAYS.

Elected and Inaugurated President a Second Time—Triumphal Tour Through the South and the West, ended by Mrs. McKinley's illness.

THE Republican National Convention of 1900, held in Philadelphia from June 19 to 21, unanimously nominated President McKinley as the standard bearer of the party. The hearty action of the Convention was the grandest possible endorsement of the President's first administration. For the second place on the ticket Theodore Roosevelt of New York was nominated.

The campaign that followed the nomination was valiantly fought because of the tactics employed by the opposition. In spite of the heroic efforts of the Democratic party, led by Mr. Bryan, President McKinley carried nearly every northern and western state, receiving a larger popular majority than that of four years before. This

was a magnificent attestation of his popularity among the people.

In a little pavilion midway of the main east door of the capitol and the heroic figure of Washington which faces the great building, William McKinley, on the 4th of March, 1901, for the second time took the oath of office as President of the United States. As with uplifted hand he repeated the formal vow to support the constitution of the republic he looked into the face of Chief Justice Fuller, whose snowy locks and heavy black silk gown made him a statuesque figure in the ceremonial edifice.

Grouped about the President just without the pavilion were the members of the cabinet, foreign diplomats, United States senators, representatives, governors and the distinguished statesmen of the period. The ceremony was performed quickly, however, and before the throng that surged toward the plaza could comprehend what was going on the President became his own successor and was reading his inaugural address. This was marked by a strong patriotic policy and was well received by the nation. The address comprised a reiteration of the policy of his first administration.

A few weeks after the inauguration a tour by the President and his party was planned for the south and far west. As originally planned the

President was to go from Washington to New Orleans, stopping at several cities in the south on the way. Thence to Texas, making short visits at Dallas and Galveston, and possibly stopping at other small cities. The trip across western Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and southwestern California was to be hurried, the first important stopping place on the Pacific coast being Los Angeles.

From Los Angeles the party was to go to San Francisco, there to remain several days participating in the launching of the battle-ship Ohio and festivities which had been planned on an elaborate scale. On the north Pacific coast the President was to go to Portland, Seattle and Tacoma. After leaving Puget Sound he was to stop at one or two of the smaller cities in Washington, possibly in Idaho, and then proceed to Helena and Butte in Montana. Thence to the Yellowstone park, entering it on the north and reentering his train on the south side of the park.

The President had never been in the great national park of the country and he was therefore to explore it as thoroughly as he could in two or three days. He was then to be whisked off to Salt Lake City, thence to Denver and Colorado Springs; thence to Topeka and Kansas City. Without making any stops of importance, his train was to be hurried to Duluth, where the President was to embark for a trip down the great lakes for Buffalo.

On the way down he was to stop for some hours at Detroit and at Cleveland, and arrive at Buffalo some time between the 10th and 15th of June, where he was to be the guest of the city and participate in the exercises at the Pan-American exposition on President's day.

The itinerary was begun in the spring as planned, Mrs. McKinley accompanying the President. The President was heartily received throughout the South, gala days being held wherever he stopped.

On reaching the Pacific coast Mrs. McKinley became seriously ill, and for some days her life was in danger. This ended the itinerary, and as soon as she could be safely moved the Presidential party returned home by special train. A rest at the family home in Canton so improved Mrs. McKinley's health that she was able to accompany the President to the Pan-American exposition in September and be present on President's Day at the exposition.

CHAPTER XXV.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY'S ASSASSINATION.

President's Visit to the Pan-American Exposition—His Great Speech
—Shot by Anarchist Leon Czolgosz—A Week in the Balance.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY left Washington about the middle of August. He was worn out by the cares of state and through worry over Mrs. McKinley's health, and went to his home in Canton for a brief rest. There he spent much of his time out of doors, driving about the country, visiting his farm and walking, and soon regained his old-time strength and vigor. Mrs. McKinley also improved rapidly, and on Wednesday, Sept. 4, accompanied by his wife, the Misses Barber, and Miss Sarah Duncan, his nieces, he left Canton for Buffalo to attend the Pan-American Exposition. They arrived in Buffalo the same evening and were taken at once to the north gate of the exposition grounds.

There an immense crowd gathered to welcome the nation's Executive. The people shouted, can-