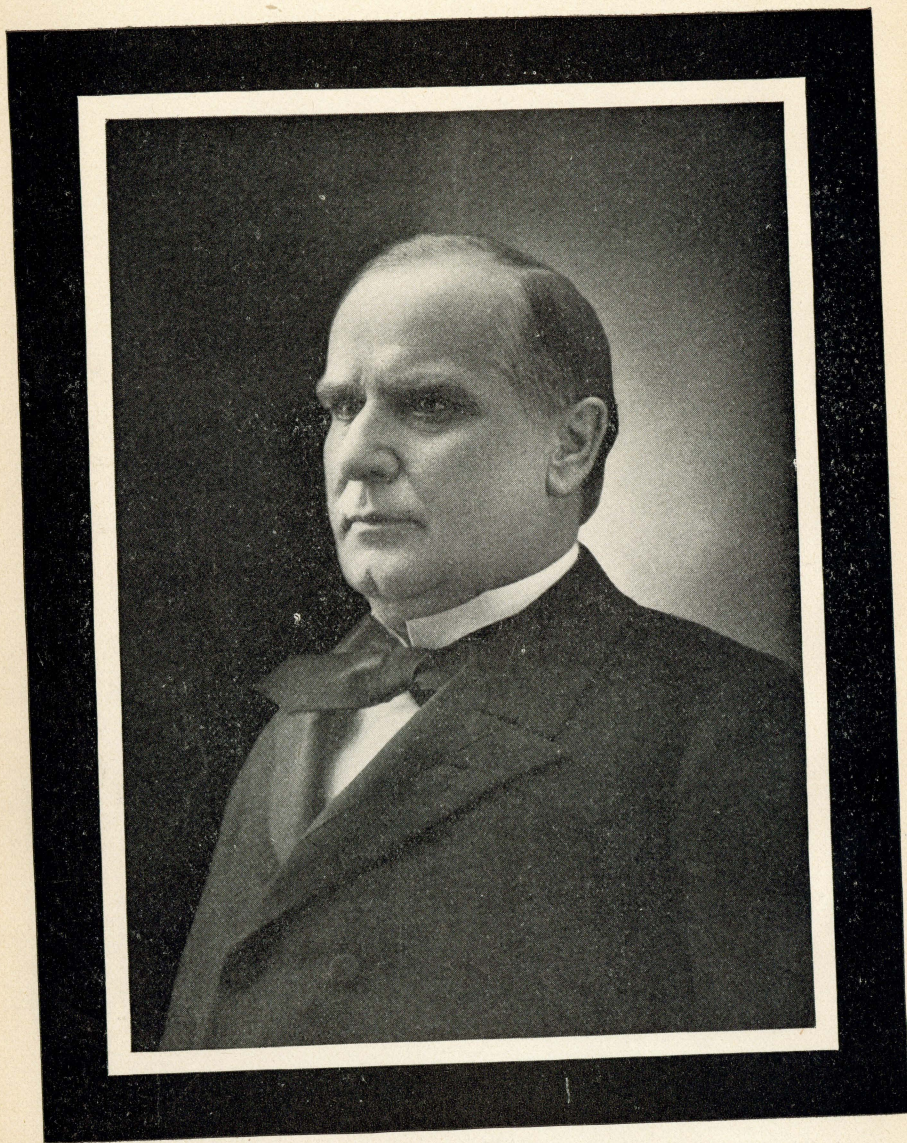


PROCEEDINGS
Swedish American Republican League
OF ILLINOIS.
VOLUME III.



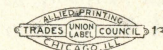
WILLIAM McKINLEY.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONVENTIONS
OF THE
SWEDISH AMERICAN
REPUBLICAN LEAGUE
OF ILLINOIS

MARCH 9TH, 1898, 1899, 1900 AND 1901.

ALSO OF
THE FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH
JOHN ERICSON DAY BANQUETS

GIVEN AT
PAXTON, AURORA, JOLIET AND GALESBURG.



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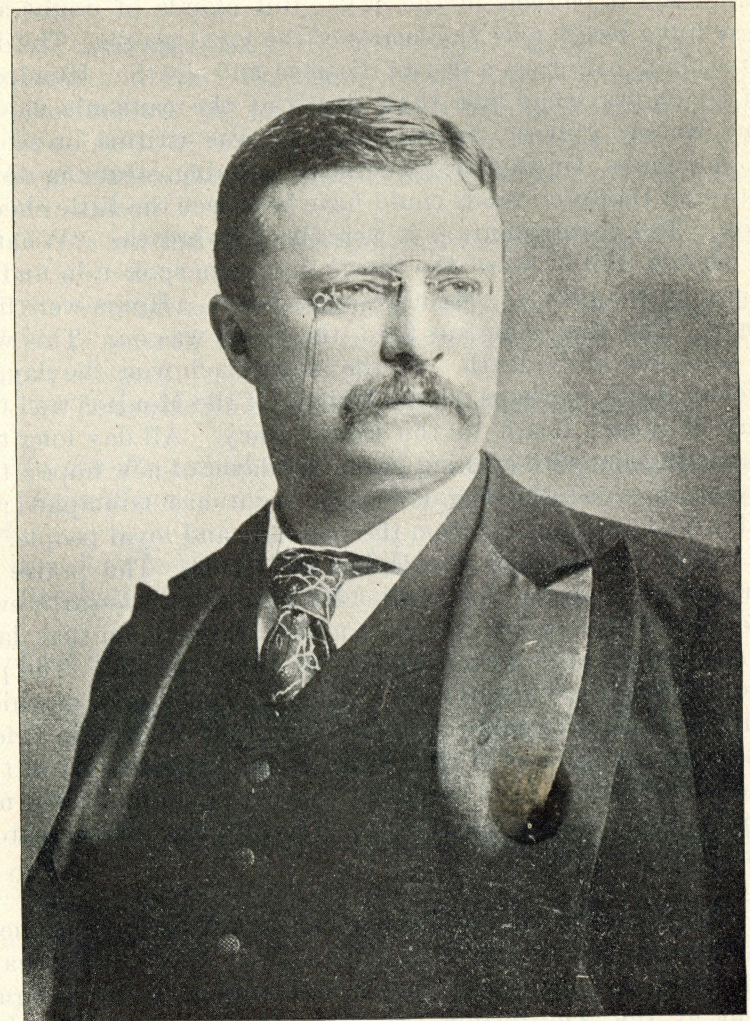
with thrifty, industrious, and enterprising people, a large per cent. of whom are of our own nationality.

In the never-to-be-forgotten contest of 1896, this county gave that great American, William McKinley, nearly 1,500 majority. Enterprise and Republican majority usually go hand-in-hand. This county is the home of one of the honored State Senators of Illinois, whose reputation throughout the length and breadth of this greath state is all that he or his most ardent admirers could wish. The Senator is to be congratulated upon his splendid constituency, and his constituency are to be congratulated upon their good fortune in having such an able and honorable representative. Many of us would be glad to see him promoted to larger fields of usefulness and hope that greater honors await him in the future.

The Republican party are to be congratulated on having the Swedish-Americans as one of its most efficient parts. Never failing in their devotion to principle, never withholding their support, never wandering away after strange Gods, believing that Republicanism and good government are synonymous terms; have stood by the flag in defeat as well as in victory.

In the campaign of 1896 this league occupied a conspicuous place. At the meeting of the Executive Committee, held at Princeton in the month of August, Messrs. N. J. Oleen, George W. Johnson, Frank G. Stibb, S. J. Peterson, Will S. Hussander, Charles F. Anderson and A. L. Anderson were appointed a campaign committee; subsequently, at the solicitation of the Chairman of the National Committee, Messrs. Nels Nelson, Edward Westman and Will S. Hussander were appointed a sub-committee. This committee contributed more than one-half of their time to the campaign, having charge of the Swedish bureau at the headquarters of the National Committee in Chicago.

An idea of the splendid work done by this committee can only be gained when it is known that they mailed 7,300 letters, 789,975 books and documents, and 700,000 newspapers. If it had not been for the work of this committee, the Republican vote in many states would have been much smaller, and who can say that this vote thus saved was not the turning point in the election.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The League selected the 9th of March as its day to celebrate, which commemorates one of the darkest as well as one of the brightest days in the history of the country. Sunday morning, March 9th, 1862, dawned bright and clear; not a cloud was to be seen in the sky. But clouds of doubt and fear hung heavy over the hearts of the loyal people. The day preceding had been a day of disaster and death. Hundreds of Union brave had met their death at the cannon's mouth and watery graves. Intense anxiety was written on every countenance. On this bright Sunday morning, steaming down through Hampton roads could have been seen the little cheese box. The government, as it were, held its breath. "What if it should fail?" were the words that were spoken in undertones by the people. Moments were hours. Hours were like days. The first shot was fired, the battle was on. This was a struggle unto death. If the Merrimach won the day, it meant death, perhaps, to the Union; if the Monitor won the day, it meant death to the Confederacy. All day long the battle raged; with evening came the dawn of new hope; the victory is won; the flag is saved; right has triumphed; a mighty shout went up from the patriotic and loyal people.

God reigned and the Union still lived. The praise of Ericsson was on the lips of all. No king in all the earth ever wore a crown so bright as did Captain Ericsson on that day, placed on his brow by a greatful and loving people. The pages of history are bright with illustrious names, none of which will live longer or shine brighter than that of Captain Ericsson. In the fullness of time when an impartial history of the years shall have been written, who can say that it will not read: Washington the Father, Lincoln the Emancipator, Ericsson the Savior.

The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held at Chicago, September 10th, 1897, and at Paxton, February 9th, 1898, and of the last annual Convention of the League, held at the Auditorium, Chicago, March 9th, 1897, were adopted as a whole without reading.

It was then moved and carried that all resolutions presented be referred to a committee on Resolutions without reading.

On motion the chairman appointed a committee of seven on Resolutions.

It was then moved and carried that the Convention invite Lieutenant Governor Northcott to address the delegates assembled.

The chair appointed: E. C. Westman, L. M. Noling, Dr. Dahlstedt and Rev. Challman, a committee to meet Lieut. Gov. Northcott at the train and escort him to the Convention.

The Lieut. Governor was then introduced by the President and made a stirring speech replete with patriotism and Republicanism.

On motion the chairman appointed a committee of five on credentials.

The committee on credentials reported 105 Delegates entitled to seats in the Convention, which report was unanimously adopted.

The Treasurer then presented the following report:

To the President and Members of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois in Convention assembled:

Received fees from 120 delegates . .	\$180 00	
Received from former Treasurer . .	83.29	
		\$263.29
Paid out as per vouchers attached.	189.00	
Cash on hand in Treasury	\$ 74.29	

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK G. STIBB, Treasurer.

On motion the same was referred to an auditing committee of five.

The auditing committee presented the following report which was adopted:

We, the undersigned Auditing Committee, have examined the Treasurer's report and vouchers and find the same correct.

Signed. { N. J. OLEEN. P E. LARRSON.
JOHN EKBLAW. C. A. SAMUELSON.
FRANK HUBENET.
Auditing Committee.

Judge Hoglund of Cook County was then called on to address the Convention, but declined, stating that he had slept all night with the Doctor and would have to take good care of his health.

Thereupon Rev. Challman of Kane and Secretary Olson of Cook were called upon and spoke at length upon the issues of the day.

The President then declared that the election of officers was in order. Winnebago nominated Frank G. Stibb of Rockford for President; Cook seconded the nomination of Mr. Stibb, and there being no further nominations, F. A. Landee of Rock Island moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast one ballot for Frank G. Stibb.

Motion carried and Mr. Stibb was declared duly elected President for the ensuing year.

The election of Vice President was then in order, and Kane County nominated A. W. Anderson of Aurora.

Iroquois nominated F. N. Andren of Cook; Mercer, McLean and Winnebago seconded the nomination of Mr. Anderson. A vote was then ordered, A. M. Anderson receiving a majority of 40 was declared duly elected Vice President for the ensuing year.

Cook County then placed in nomination for Secretary Edwin A. Olson of Chicago. There being no further nominations Mr. Olson was duly elected Secretary to succeed himself.

Ford County nominated C. A. Nordgren of Paxton, Ill., for Treasurer. McLean nominated A. Bloomquist of Bloomington. A vote was called for and Mr. Nordgren receiving a majority of 80 was declared the duly elected Treasurer of the League.

On motion, A. Bloomquist of McLean, and C. A. Samuelson of Mercer, were unanimously elected Sergeant at arms of the League for the ensuing year.

It was then moved and carried that Cook County be allowed to elect three Vice Presidents.

Thereupon the following names were presented as having been duly elected to represent their respective Counties, as Vice Presidents, and were duly confirmed as such by the League:



FRANK G. STIBB,

President (1898) of the Swedish-American Republican League of Illinois.



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