

[Reported for the Baltimore Sun]

THE NATIONAL LABOR CONGRESS.

Yesterday being the day appointed for the first national meeting of the different Trades' Unions throughout the country, the headquarters of the trades' societies, &c., of this city, in Royeton's building, were decorated with flags. A large banner suspended across Baltimore street, from the windows of their rooms, bore the inscription, in large letters: "Welcome, Sons of Toil—From North and South, East and West."

The following were the committees of reception, &c., appointed by the Baltimore societies:

Committee of Reception—House and Ship Painters' Union—John W. Keplinger, Jas. W. Underwood, John Madden, Oliver Jenkins and W. W. Watson. House Carpenters' Union—Wm. Ferguson, R. H. Kirby and Charles Hilliard. Coopers' Union—Charles Luke. Shipjoiners' Union—Thomas Wright, Thomas Dunning and W. Chipper. Harness-Makers' Union—James B. Overton, Thos. Everett. Woodturners' Union—Robt. Metz. Bricklayers' Union—J. E. Kirby and J. B. Cummings. House Painters' Union—Robt. Gosple, chairman; W. T. Crenney, secretary; Joseph Norman, F. Mahoney and J. L. Irwin. Pattern Makers' Union—A. J. Judge. Shipwrights' Union—Thomas Wright and Wm. Chipper. Can-Makers' Union—James A. Gibson, — Schley — Fay. Coach Makers' Union—J. A. Canfield, J. Foy and J. Magness.

Committee of Arrangements—J. Edward Kirby, Thomas S. Everitt, James B. Overton, Thos. B. Burch and Edward Calder of Baltimore.

Ushers—James L. Irwin, James A. Gibson, Jos. A. Underwood, Charles Luke, Charles Hilliard, John J. Madden and Wm. Chipper.

The Congress assembled at noon, in Front Street Theatre, and was called to order by Mr. Wm. Cather, president of the Trades' Assembly of Maryland, who stated that he was authorized to propose Mr. John Hinchcliffe, of Illinois, as the temporary president. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Hinchcliffe said his duties as the temporary occupant of the chair would be simple and brief. As workingmen, they had no time to waste—They came together meaning business. The next thing in order was the appointment of a temporary secretary. Mr. Cather said he was authorized to name Mr. J. D. Ware, of Pennsylvania, for that position, and the motion was adopted.

A committee of one from each of the States represented and the District of Columbia was appointed by the respective delegations on the credentials of members, as follows: James B. Overton, Maryland; James H. Reed, District of Columbia; M. J. Hammond, New York; C. W. Gibson, Connecticut, Wm. B. Her, Georgia; R. S. Mastor, Delaware; D. B. Bolson, Virginia; C. E. Hughes, Massachusetts; A. C. Cameron, Vermont; Thomas M. Dolan, Michigan; A. Schroeder, Missouri; J. D. Ware, Pennsylvania; Jacob Albach, Indiana.

The Congress then took a recess until 3 o'clock, to enable the committee on credentials to report.

The Congress is composed of two delegates from each Trades' Assembly, and one delegate from each Trades' Society. The following gentlemen reported at the rooms, in Royeton's building, yesterday morning:

DELEGATES.

Andrew Schroeder, Ship Carpenters and Caulkers' Protective Union, No 14, St Louis, Missouri. Thomas M. Dolan, Grand Eight Hour League, Detroit, Michigan. Henry George, Grand Eight Hour League, Detroit, Michigan. William H. Stewart, Grand Eight Hour League, Detroit, Michigan. John Hinchcliffe, Railroad Men's Protective Union, Painters' Union, and Machinery Moulders' Union, of St Louis, and Miners' Lodge, of Illinois. James Ashworth, Workingmen's Union, of St Louis, Missouri. Isaac Chinn, Window Glass-bowers' Union, Birmingham, Pennsylvania. S. D. Bolson, Mechanics' Association, Norfolk, Virginia. Thos S. Denham, Non-Unionists Union, Washington D. C. J. D. Pheal, Masons' Union, Newburgh, N. Y. Alfred M. Phelps, Trades' Union, New Haven Conn. C. W. Gibson Eight Hour Association, Norwich, Conn. W. Harding, Coachmakers' International Union Brooklyn, New York. J. D. Ware, Coachmakers' International Union, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. T. E. Hughes, Marble Cutters' Association, Boston, Mass.—James J. Alfred, Trades' Assembly, New Albany, Indiana. Wm B. Iles, Iron Moulders Union, of Augusta and Savannah Georgia. A. B. Cameron, Trades' Assembly of Chicago, and Grand Eight Hour League of Illinois. R. L. Martin, Trades' Assembly Wilmington Del. Rich'd Emmons, Workingmen's Convention, Washington D. C. M. T. Hanau, Bricklayers' Beneficial and Protective Union, Brooklyn, New York. James H. Reed, Eight Hour Carpenters' Trades' Union, Washington, District of Columbia. Wm C. Clark, Granite Cutters' Association, Washington, District of Columbia. J. C. C. Whaley, Workingmen's Convention, Washington, District of Columbia. John Reid, Workingmen's Union, New York City, New York. James J. Mitchell, Journeyman Stonecutters' Association, Washington, District of Columbia. John Thomas, Blank Book Binders' Protective Union, New York. Wm J. Jessup, Shipjoiners' Union, New York. N. Y. L. Cogwell, Carpenters', Joiners and Machinists' Union, Lowell, Massachusetts—Alexander Tronp, Workingmen's Assembly Boston, Massachusetts. John W. Cooper, Shipjoiners' Union, Baltimore. Gilman Rand, Bookbinders' Union, Boston, Massachusetts. Wm P. Bladen, Blacksmiths' Union, Baltimore. J. R. Bolan, Ship-painters' Union, Boston, Mass. George H. Spanning, Iron Moulders' Union, Boston Mass.

Baltimore Delegates.—Hugh Potter, Journeyman Shipwrights' Union. Wm. Neadhamer, House Painters' Union. Thomas Barnett, House and Ship Painters', No 2. Isalah Brown, Wood Turners' Union. James B. Overton and James Hillard, Trades' Assembly. Thomas S. Everett, Harness-makers' Union. A. J. Judge, Pattern-makers' Union. Wm. Cather, House Carpenters' Union. Charles E. Wilson, Canmakers' Union. J. Edward Kirby, Bricklayers' Union. J. W. Storey, Iron Moulders' Union. Thomas B. Griffin, Operative Masons' Benevolent Union.

The following reported subsequently: Thomas P. Brian, Journeyman Carriers' Association, Baltimore; P. W. Ford, National Union of Carriers; John F. Meater, Eight Hour League No 1, in Iowa; Isalah Brown, Woodturners' Association of Baltimore, Marshall Roberts, Trades' Assembly of Baltimore.

Afternoon Session—The Congress reassembled at three o'clock. The committee on credentials not being ready to report, Mr. Alexander H. Swoje, of Boston, was called upon to address the meeting, in order to occupy the time. He made a few remarks, stating that the workingmen were creating public opinion in Boston and were gaining ground every day.

Mr. — Rand, of the Bookbinders' Union, of Boston, having been called upon, said that he came for work, not to talk. The condition of the workingmen is such as needs action in their behalf. Let us ask nothing for the workingmen except what is right, and when we do ask it, let us take only an affirmative answer. After referring to labor in England, and the action taken by the British Parliament to improve the condition of workingmen, he referred to the abuses in our own country.

There are trades which are driven six months in the year and idle the other six months, which is wrong, and should be remedied. We may accomplish something in this way. He wished to see eight hours made a day's labor, so that the workingmen can have time for intellectual improvement, and to elevate the intellectual condition of their children. He spoke of labor and capital, and argued that labor was more essential than capital. We want it to go forth to the world that this meeting is a unit in its action—As long as we are united we cease to be weak.

The Congress was also briefly addressed by Mr. Jonathan C. Fincher, president of the International Machinists and Blacksmiths' Union; Nathaniel B. Thayer, of Philadelphia, ex-secretary of the above association, and Wm. Otley, of Philadelphia, the present secretary of said association. A. W. Phelps, of New Haven, Conn., next spoke, and urged the workingmen to stand up for their rights.

James B. Overton, chairman of the committee on credentials, reported that all the delegates present were regularly elected, which was adopted. A member excepted to the reception of two delegates from the Shipjoiners' Association, of Baltimore, and the case was referred back to the committee, who soon after reported in favor of admitting Wm G. Miller, alternate, of the Shipjoiners' Society, to the Congress, without the privilege of voting; which was adopted.

On motion, a committee of one from each of the thirteen States represented, and the District of Columbia, was appointed on permanent organization. The following States were represented: Maryland, District of Columbia, New York, Connecticut, Georgia, Delaware, Virginia, Massachusetts, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Iowa.

Mr. John Reed, ex-president of the Mechanics' Association of New York, and Mr. W. Harding, of New York, of the Coachmakers' International Union, made short addresses.

Mr. Harding said that this Congress to day, which he assisted to accomplish, is a fact which will lay the foundation of future strength for the workingmen of the country. He advocated at length the eight hour system of labor.

Mr. Wm. H. Stewart, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, suggested that it is quite as important to look to the area of labor as it is to the time of labor. The public lands are disposed of such a way as to contract very materially the area of labor.

J. C. Whaley, of the District of Columbia, next spoke. The delegates generally expressed an indisposition to speak until subjects were properly brought up for discussion. They were averse to speaking for the sole purpose of occupying time while the Congress was awaiting the action of committees.

The Chair being called upon, said that this convention, though not so large in numbers as some political conventions, was yet of great importance, as it affected the happiness of millions of men and women. He hoped that the members present would not separate until they had designated the steps which they were to take in a forward direction. He hoped that no political partialities or prejudices would be permitted to stop for one moment the onward progress of the great movement they had so much at heart.

Mr. Cameron, chairman of the committee on permanent organization, after being out a couple of hours, reported that there was no prospect that the committee would be able to report tonight, and asked for further time. After some objections made to the long delay, the leave was granted, and the Congress adjourned until this morning, at 9 o'clock.