

SUBJECT:

JOHN K. COWEN AND OSCAR G. MURRAY, RECEIVERS,

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

JOHN T. MCGRAW,
COUNSEL.

GRAFTON, W. VA.

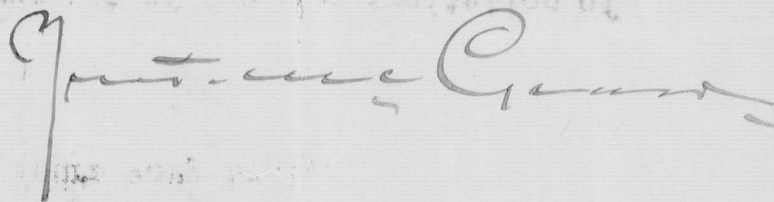
June 12th, 1897.

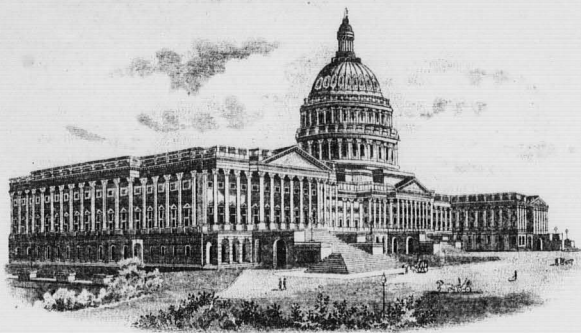
Hon. John C. Shehan,
Tammany Hall,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the kind invitation of Tammany Hall to be present in New York at its celebration on the 4th proximo; and in reply thereto I beg to say that I will take pleasure in being present at the time indicated. I don't think that I could have anything special to say on such an occasion, except to extend the greetings of this section, and to thank Tammany Hall for the substantial aid and assistance which it has at all times accorded to the Democracy of this State towards the success of the Democratic party.

Yours very truly,





House of Representatives, U.S.
Washington, June 13, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,
Chairman Committee,
New York, N.Y.,

My Dear Sir:-

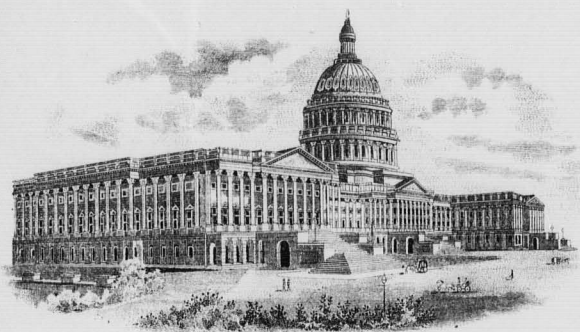
I regret that public duties forbid the acceptance of your courteous invitation to address the honorable and historic Tammany society upon the occasion of the One Hundred and Twenty-first anniversary of American Independence.

The patriotic spirit which impelled our fathers to achieve political independence should inspire their sons to fully accomplish commercial emancipation.

It seems to be an opportune moment to toss yet a little more tea into Boston Harbor and write a new declaration of financial independence.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Alex. M. Rockey
"1"



House of Representatives, U.S.
Washington.

June 14th 1897

Hon Thomas L. Fitts.

John C. Shukan.

George B. McEllan

Nathan Strauss

John B. McGoldrick

Augustus W. Peters.

Gentlemen.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to attend the celebration of the One hundred and twenty first anniversary of American Independence at Tammany Hall on the 4th day of July next. I can assure you that it gives me great pleasure to accept your invitation and be with the Democrats of your society on that patriotic occasion.

Very truly yours. Obet Servant
Andrew J. Hunter

Fred. C. Schraub.
Attorney and Counselor at Law.
Louvville, N. Y.

June 14th. 1897.

Hon, John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall,

New York City.

My Dear Mr Sheehan:-

I am in receipt of the kind invitation of the Tammany Society to attend their celebration on the 4th of July and address the meeting.

I take great pleasure in accepting this invitation and shall be pleased to comply with the invitation.

I suppose of course I would be only asked for a short talk. As I said to you last fall I am earnestly in favor of your organization winning out in the impending battle this year, and any time I can be of assistance to you in any way don't fail to call on me, I will make speeches or do anything I can to help you along.

I called on you a short time ago at Tammany Hall but found you were absent from the city, shall be in New York again in a few days and will call and talk with you if you expect to be in the city.

I am pleased to note wherever I go public sentiment is very much with us at the present time and particularly with your organization in the city. I predict for you an overwhelming victory, this fall if you hold level, and keep easy.

I believe it is a good idea to start the canvass with a rush on the Fourth of July and keep it going.

Please have me advised of the arrangements in due time and oblige.

I am as ever.

Yours, Fred C. Schraub



STATE OF NEW YORK.
Assembly Chamber,

Albany

June 1st 1897

Wm. John C. Sheehan

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 7th inst. received. In reply I wish to say that I have the honor of being chairman of one hundred citizens appointed to make arrangements to properly celebrate the one hundred and twenty-first Anniversary of American Independence. It therefore will be impossible for me to go to New York on the 4th. Our celebration will consist of salutes by large guns, and bell-ringing by all the church bells in the City.



STATE OF NEW YORK.
Assembly Chamber,

Albany 189

at sun-rise and sun-set.
A civic parade to consist of
nearly all the civic societies
at 2-30 P.M. also a grand
display of fire-works at
8-30 P.M.

Thanking you for your kind
invitation

I remain

Very truly yours
Wm. H. Miller Jr.

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C.

June 14, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,
Tammany Hall,
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to the celebration of the One Hundred and Twenty first celebration of American Independence. I regret to say that previous engagement will prevent my attendance.

Very Respectfully,

W. H. Minnichsen

Clinton Beckwith. - Contractor.

HERKIMER, N. Y.

June 14th 1897

Hon. John C. Sheehan

Tammany Hall, New York City:

Dear Sir: It would afford me great pleasure to meet with your Society on the One hundred and twenty first Anniversary of our Country's independence, because I know it will be a grand occasion, and one worthy of the great event it celebrates and commemorates, but I am obliged to decline your generous invitation to assist in keeping the fires of liberty burning, because of an appointment made here. I have met with your Society on several like occasions, and I have so enjoyed the event that I feel that it is a hardship, to be deprived of the pleasure, at this time. I honor and esteem the sons of the Columbian Order of Tammany Hall, and I have been witness to their patriotic and heroic efforts in the Cause of American liberty for many years, And in these days when the dominant political party in the Country, advocates sustains and practices a policy of Government, which is simply, one of increasing the burdens of

taxation, and a reduction of the power of the people
to pay such imposed burdens, by creating money
for different classes, all controlled by one class,
which policy must inevitably in the destruction of
the interests of the productive portion of our
Countrymen. I feel sure that the principles
advocated and the resultant resolutions adopted
on the occasion of your meeting, will as ~~an~~ ^{an} ~~times~~
fact, give renewed hope and courage to all
lovers of American liberty, whether under
your banners or struggling elsewhere, but always
holding and maintaining your principles, to again
bind on their swords and go forth to the fight
prepared and willing to surrender everything
but the right to pursue life liberty and happiness
and to perish in defense of that right

I hope to meet you on some future
occasion

Yours very respy
Chilton Beakwith

ADOLPH MEYER,
M. C. 1st La. Dist.

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C. June 15 1897

M^r. Hon. John A. Sheehan
Tammany Hall
New York City

Dear Sir :

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed favor of
7th inst, relating to inviting me
to attend your celebration on fourth
July next -
contents of which have been duly noted, and shall have my careful
attention.

I thank you for the honor
and shall, with pleasure, attend
on the occasion

Very truly yours,

Ad. Meyer

Remarks :

The Western Railway of Alabama.

Legal Department.

George P. Harrison,
General Counsel.

Opelika, Ala. 15th June. '97

Hon. John C. Sheehan
Tammany Hall
New York City.

Dear Sir:

The Board of Directors of myself
and associates on Committee, in behalf of
the Tammany Society, or Columbian Order,
desiring my personal presence, at Tammany
Hall on the occasion of 121st anniversary
of American Independence, has been duly
received & is highly appreciated -

I hope to be in New York and be with
you, and if not (unavoidably hindered
will take pleasure in addressing the meeting -
(a short talk) - Wishing you grand success
great success, I am with assurances of
personal esteem,

Yours very truly
Geo. P. Harrison

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C., June 15th, 1897

Hon J. C. Sheehan,

Sammany Hall
New York City

My Dear Sir,

I acknowledge with thanks your kind invitation to be present on the occasion of the celebration by Sammany Society of One Hundred & Twenty First Anniversary of American Independence. Feeling great interest & entire sympathy with any movement that tends to the continuance & promotion of American Independence it is with much regret I find that I cannot be with you. I feel sure that "Sammany" true to its historic principles & practices will make this an occasion of universal & deep public interest. This celebration of American Independence should be paramount to all others.

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C., _____, 189

Irving wrote, "he who plants an oak, looks forward to future generations, & plans for posterity". In this same unselfish spirit Tammamy deserves all honor for implanting in the hearts of our people sentiments of patriotism & public spirit. The Nation that transmits such intelligence to its youth, is surely not destined to ruin. Tammamy, (as shown by the following) - is well known in Ala. During my campaign last fall one of my constituents, an ardent "Bryan & Free silver man" accosted me with "Who is this man Hall of A. Y. ? I see from the papers that a Mr Hall of A. Y. a man of great influence & following has come out for Bryan & Free silver? I replied that I had not seen an account of it, I knew of no prominent man unless it was an Ex Mayor named Oakley Hall, so he said this big fellows name is "Tammamy Hall". Oh yes, I said he's a big fellow, I had to acknowledge I

Knew the gentleman, that he was a po-
tent factor in politics both State &
National, Success to the old gentle-
man!

I am
Very Truly Yours,
J. B. Florman,

House of Representatives United States,

Washington, D. C.

6-15-1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall, N. Y. City.

Dear Sir:- Your invitation to Hon. J. D. Botkin to participate in the celebration at Tammany Hall on July Fourth is received. Mr. Botkin is absent at the present time, but when he returns I will call his attention to the matter.

Yours truly,

John C. Bradshaw
Private Sec. to J. D. Botkin

72-76 TRINITY BUILDINGS,

111 BROADWAY, - NEW YORK.

N. Y. Telephone, Cortlandt 550.

N. J. Telephone, Westfield 6 F.

PECKHAM, WARNER & STRONG,

Counsellors at Law.

W. G. PECKHAM.

JOHN DE WITT WARNER.

C. H. STRONG.

Cable Address: Counsel.

NEW YORK,

189

Dear Sir,

Tammam's invitation to be present on the occasion of its Celebration of the 121st Anniversary of American Independence reaches me here to day; and I regret that previous engagements will prevent my acceptance.

Trusting that the occasion may be a most auspicious one, and trusting that the sentiments expressed in that occasion may form a platform, acceptable to all Democrats, of Independence of sectional Domination in State Affairs, and of State Rule in Local Concerns - thanking the Society for the courtesy of its remembrance.

Sincerely

John D. Warner

Wm. G. Peckham
Tammam Hall
N.Y.

Memphis June 15th 1897
Hon John C Shuman.
Dear Sir.

I very much regret
my inability to be present
at the 121st celebration by the
Tammany Society of our
Virtual Independence. For
more than one hundred years
the Tammany Society has
championed the cause of individual
liberty and democratic govern-
ment. We might as well look the
facts in the face and realize
that the democratic party is
hopelessly divided if those who
now control its machinery persist
in the policy declared by the Chicago
convention. The free coinage of
silver at the ratio of 16 to 1
is regarded by a very large number
of influential and patriotic

democrats throughout
the country as destructive
of the best interests of the
country and contrary to the
time honored principles of the
party. It does seem to me
that we should drop from
the party creed a doctrine
about which there is so much
division and unite upon those
things about which we are all
agreed. The liberty of the citizen,
the right to local self government
and just taxation lie at the
heart of true democracy and
in standing by those doctrines
we will make in the future
as we have in the past a very
broad issue with the Republican
Party. I sincerely hope that
the Tammany Society may
pave the way out of the

trouble. The whole country
looks forward with great
interest to the approaching
election in Greater New York.
If Tammany will drop the
base of contentions and strike
out for the control of Greater New
York on lines which all demo-
crats can approve it will
in my judgement do a signal
service to the party and the
entire country.

Very Truly yours.
Gerrit Patterson

273 Prospect Avenue.

Mr E. C. Wall
regrets that he is unable
to accept the kind invitation
of Tammany Society
for the 24th of July
next

Milwaukee Wis
June 15th 1897

LAW OFFICE
OF
DOLSON & DOLSON.
Bank of Hornellsville Building.

DICTATED.

C. A. DOLSON.
E. L. DOLSON.

Hornellsville, N. Y., June 16, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall, New York.

Dear Sir:--I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt from your committee of an invitation to attend the celebration of the one hundred and twenty-first anniversary of American independence, to be given by the Columbian Order on the Fourth of July next. Your kind invitation is accepted and I shall consider it an honor to meet with you upon the occasion named.

Respectfully yours,

C. A. Dolson

District Court in the City of New York
FOR THE
Ninth Judicial District.

170 East 121st Street,

CORNER OF SYLVAN PLACE.

Joseph P. Fallon, Justice.
William J. Kennedy, Clerk.
Francis M. Mullen, Dist. Clerk.

June 16th 1897

Hon John C. Sheehan

Dear Sir:

I have received your
Kind invitation to attend the Coming Celebration
by the Tammany Society of Columbian
Order of the Anniversary of our National
Independence. I thank you for it, and
unless Providence forbids I will be with
you on that occasion.

Very Resp Yours
Joseph P. Fallon

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C.

June 16th., 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall,

New York, N.Y.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge your invitation to be present with you on the 4th. of July, and participate in the celebration of your Society on that day. I am pleased to respond, acknowledging my acceptance, both of the honor of attendance, and the duty of delivering an address under such circumstances as may then appear auspicious.

Your most obedient servant,

Wm Hamilton Lewis

FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

CHARLES W. STONE, Pa., Chairman.

Charles S. Hartman, Mont.

W. Godfrey Hunter, Ky.

Henry C. Loudenslager, N. J.

Henry C. Brewster, N. Y.

W. F. L. Hadley, Ill.

Addison S. McClure, Ohio.

James H. Southard, Ohio.

Nathan O. Murphy, Ariz.

Ben L. Fairchild, N. Y.

John M. Allen, Miss.

John H. Bankhead, Ala.

Thomas C. McRae, Ark.

Stephen M. Sparkman, Fla.

James G. Spencer, Miss.

Richard H. Clarke, Ala.

COMMITTEE ON COINAGE, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,

Post Gibson Miss June 17, 1897
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Hon John C Shuckon.

My Sir.

I have

The honor to acknowledge receipt of
the kind invitation of the Committee
of "Tommany Society" to be present &
address the meeting on the occasion
of the celebration of the one hundred
thirty-first anniversary of the order.

Such an occasion, can but
be an inspiration. & when I consider
what Tommany has done for Democracy,
how loyal to its tenets. How true
in devotion to its principles. & to
borrow the language of that superb
orator & gentleman, George F. Ellwells, -
"how in every political struggle. The
Tigers claws have always, dripped
with Republican blood," I feel
the more deeply the disappointment.

CHARLES W. STONE, Pa., Chairman.

Charles S. Hartman, Mont.

W. Godfrey Hunter, Ky.

Henry C. Loudenslager, N. J.

Henry C. Brewster, N. Y.

W. F. L. Hadley, Ill.

Addison S. McClure, Ohio.

James H. Southard, Ohio.

Nathan O. Murphy, Ariz.

Ben L. Fairchild, N. Y.

John M. Allen, Miss.

John H. Bankhead, Ala.

Thomas C. McRae, Ark.

Stephen M. Sparkman, Fla.

James G. Spencer, Miss.

Richard H. Clarke, Ala.

COMMITTEE ON COINAGE, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

, 189

22

That circumstances prevent. They
 being with you, on the occasion
 named. Among the clouds, of
 selfishness, paternalism, jingoism,
 populism, & demagoguism, that
 now overshadow, & darken, our
 political horizon, it is a satisfaction
 to have proud old Tammany
 announcing the celebration of its
 121st Anniversary, giving us en-
 couragement to feel & know, that
 the Columbian Order, stands a rock
 of defense, behind which Democrats
 may rally, & reform times, to march
 again to victory, preserving, &
 perpetuating those Democratic prin-
 ciples, laid down by the Fathers.
 The right of the individual, to
 live, to labor, & to worship, when, where,
 & how, the heart & mind, in its un-
 troubled intelligence may direct.

FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

CHARLES W. STONE, Pa., Chairman.	Ben L. Fairchild, N. Y.
Charles S. Hartman, Mont.	John M. Allen, Miss.
W. Godfrey Hunter, Ky.	John H. Bankhead, Ala.
Henry C. Loudenslager, N. J.	Thomas C. McRae, Ark.
Henry C. Brewster, N. Y.	Stephen M. Sparkman, Fla.
W. F. L. Hadley, Ill.	James G. Spencer, Miss.
Addison S. McClure, Ohio.	Richard H. Clarke, Ala.
James H. Southard, Ohio.	
Nathan O. Murphy, Ariz.	

COMMITTEE ON COINAGE, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,

WASHINGTON, D. C., _____, 189

3d.

Equal rights - to all. & Special privileges
 to none. Wishing your order.
 The greatest enjoyment & success on the
 coming occasion, perfect harmony
 in every effort & continued success -
 full organization. I have the
 honor to be. Most respectfully
 J. G. Spencer,
 Ex. M.C. 34 Congress.
 7 West at Miss

LAW OFFICES
ALEXANDER & TAYLOR,
LAWYERS,
No. 6 Lawyers' Row,

J. A. ALEXANDER.
HERBERT J. TAYLOR.

Lexington

Stanton, Va., June 17. 1897

Hon John. G. Sheehan.

Farmington Hall. N. Y. City.

My dear Sir -

I have

received your kind invitation, and it will
give me great pleasure to be with you,
and accept your meeting on the 4th
of July next. Thanking the committee
for the honor they have done me. I
am, yours very truly -

H. St. Geo. Tucker

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C. June 17th, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall, New York City,

My dear Sir:-

Yours of recent date inviting me to be present and address the meeting, at the celebration of the One Hundred and Twenty-first Anniversary of American Independence on the Fourth of July next in Tammany Hall came duly to hand.

It affords me pleasure to accept the kind invitation.

Yours very truly,

James S. Richardson

House of Representatives United States,

Washington, D. C.

June 17th., 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall,

New York. City.

Dear Sir:-

The very kind invitation of your Committee to attend the meeting of the Tammany Society on July 4th. next, is received, and most heartily appreciated.

It will give me sincere pleasure to attend the meeting, I cannot promise any address. It will be my desire to look on and listen, and not to talk.

Yours very truly,

Geo. W. Taylor

M.C.1st. Alabama.

Dictated.



*Fifth District Court,
Judge's Chambers,
154 Clinton Street,*

New York, June 17th, *1897*

Hon. John C. Sheehan
Tammany Hall, N.Y. City.

My dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the very kind invitation extended by the Tammany Society or Columbian Order, to attend its celebration of the 121st Anniversary of American Independence and to address the meeting on the 4th of July next, and in response to say that I shall be pleased to be present on that very interesting occasion.

Accept for yourself and the Committee my sincere thanks for the courtesy extended, and ^{for} the compliment your invitation implies, and believe me to be,

Very truly Yours,

Henry M. Goldfogle

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C., June 17, 1897

Hon. John C. Sheehan,
My Dear Sir,

Your invitation requesting my personal presence on the occasion of the 121st anniversary of our country's independence to be held in Tammany Hall July 4th '97, at Land.

It will afford me pleasure to be with you on this patriotic occasion, and will be pleased to join in the exercises.

Will you please notify me about what length you desire me to talk, and whether the speech is to be wholly patriotic or is it to be spiced with a little politics.

Please write me at Washington City at your earliest convenience

Very Resp^{ly}
Robt. M. Wiers
JMS



Supreme Court
Appellate Division
First Department
New York June 18 1897

Hon John C. Sheehan

Dear Sir

I accept the invitation
to be present in Fannary
Hall on July 4th at the
celebration by the Fannary
Society of the 121st anniversary
of American Independence.

Will you kindly accept
a small donation of \$25
to be applied by the Committee
to the expenses incident to the
celebration. With best wishes
for a successful celebration

believe me to be

yours very truly

Morgan J. Bowen

OFFICE OF _____

The WATERLOO OBSERVER,
 A. L. CHILDS, Proprietor,

Waterloo, N. Y.,

June 19, 1897

Am. Mr. C. Schuchman
 Tammany Hall
 N.Y. City.

Dear Sir - I am
 honored with an invitation to the
 121st celebration of the National
 Birthday, by the Columbian Order,
 the popular and reliable Standard
 Bearer of Jeffersonian Principles.

It would be a pleasure
 to attend, and I regret exceedingly
 that circumstances prevent.

With kind regards personally,
 and profound respect and esteem for
 the grand old organization, I remain

Yours very truly

A. L. Childs

13 MOUNT MORRIS PARK, WEST.

June 19, 1897

Hon John C. Sheehan

My Dear Sir:

The invitation from
Tammany Society to
attend its celebration of the
One Hundred and Twenty
First Anniversary of
American Independence,
was received.

I have promised to
present to the pupils of
Saint Jerome Parochial
School, on behalf of the
John A. Rawlin's Post G. A. R.

a sick American Standard,
on the morning of July
4th. From there I will
with pleasure, go to
Tammany Hall and
join in the patriotic
reunion, always provided
by the Democracy at the
"Wigwag" on that day.

Very truly Yours
Charles W. Dayton

COOPER & COOPER,

ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

TELEPHONE 197.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.,

June 20, 1897.

Hon. John C. Shicklan
Tammany Hall, New York City.

Dear Sir —

I accept with pleasure the kind invitation of your Committee to attend and address the meeting of the Tammany Society at its celebration of the anniversary of American Independence on the fourth of July next.

Yours very truly
C. M. Cooper

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C.

June the 21st, 1897,

Messrs Jno. C. Sheehan, Nathan Straus, et als,

Committee, on invitation,

New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:--

Replying to your courteous invitation of recent date inviting me to deliver an address before the Tammany Society or Columbian Order, on its 121st Anniversary of American Independence, July the 4th, beg to say that it will afford me pleasure to comply with your request,

Very Truly Yours,

A. C. Hoffman

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C.

June 21 / 1894

Mr John C. Shukan
New York

Dear Sir:

Your esteemed invitation
to attend the celebration of 121st
anniversary of American
independence by Tammany Hall
came duly to hand. Permit
me to say that I shall be pleased
to be with you upon that happy
occasion barring something
unforeseen at this time.

Yours with greatest regards
and my sincere thanks for your
kind invitation I am very
truly yours
J. E. Kelley

Norton Chase,
Counsellor at Law,
Commercial Bank Building,
Albany, N.Y.

June 21. 1897.

Hon. John C. Sherman
Tammany Hall,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

I beg leave to acknowledge
the polite invitation of Tammany
Hall to attend its celebration of
the one hundred and twenty first
Anniversary of American Inde-
pendence and to say that
it gives me great pleasure
to accept the same.

Very truly yours,

Norton Chase

Office of _____
The Geneva Gazette.

S. M. Parker,
Editor and Proprietor.

Geneva, N. Y., June 21, 1897

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your kind invitation to attend the coming banquet, (July 4) of the Sammamish Society or Columbian Order. A prior engagement for that day prevents my acceptance.

I trust the occasion will prove an inspiring one to all assembled at your festive board; that amid the good cheer and memories which the day awakens the company will be stirred with patriotic impulses and pledge renewed allegiance to our grand old party, its principles and

Geneva, N. Y., 189

and traditions, and usages—not
the least important of which latter
duty is the honest and earnest
support of regular Democratic
nominations, subordinating personal
predilections to the will of the
majority as expressed by duly
constituted conventions.

Very respy Yours
S. H. Parker

The Tamers,
Babylon, E. I.

Am. John C. Sheehan ^{and Others},
Committee,

Gentlemen:-

I am in receipt of your very kind invitation to be present at the Celebration of the One hundred and Twenty fifth Anniversary of American Independence by the Tammany Society or Columbian Order, on the Fourth of July next, and it will give me great pleasure to be with you, though I regret it will be impossible for me to address the meeting.

Please accept my congratulations on the bright outlook for success this Fall, and the sincere wish that Democracy will again prove triumphant.

Thanking you for your courtesy, I am,

Respectfully,
William T. Kies.

June 21/97.

Wm. J. Stone,

Lawyer,

Rooms 803-4 Union Trust Building,

Corner 7th and Olive Streets.

St. Louis, Missouri, June 21, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall,

New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for your invitation to attend the Tammany Society Celebration on July 4th. It will not be practicable for me to accept. Tammany has a great history as a patriotic organization. I have no doubt it will infuture, as it has in the past, demonstrate its right to hold the leading place among the great democratic organizations of the country by a loyal adherence to the declared principles of the party, and by its faithful and efficient work to promote the success of those principles.

With great respect I have the honor to be,

Very truly yours,

Wm J Stone

ESTABLISHED 1869.



NORRIS' NEW OFFICE BUILDING,
ERECTED 1880.

LOCK DRAWER 228.

CABLE ADDRESS:
NORRIS, PATENTS, WASHINGTON CITY.

OFFICES OF

JAMES L. NORRIS,
COUNSELOR IN PATENT CAUSES,
SOLICITOR OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN PATENTS,
COR. F AND FIFTH STREETS, N. W.,

NEAR U. S. PATENT OFFICE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 21st., 1897.

To-

Hon. Thomas L. Feitner,
Hon. John C. Sheehan,
Hon. George B. McClellan,
Hon. Nathan Straus,
Hon. John B. McGoldrick,
Hon. Augustus W. Peters,
Committee,

TAMMANY SOCIETY OR COLUMBIAN ORDER,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:-

Appreciating fully the distinction of your invitation to assist at the meeting in Tammany Hall on the approaching anniversary of our Republic's natal Day, it is with sincere regret, both on my personal account and that of the venerable Jackson Democratic Association of the District of Columbia of which I have the honor to be President, that I am forced, by business engagements, to deprive myself of the great pleasure you have so kindly proffered me. I can, however, avail myself of the alternative you suggest and by letter send greetings to my brethren - the tried and faithful Democrats of the far-famed Tammany Hall.

Representing, as you do, a Society as old as our Government itself, in the very heart of the commercial metropolis of this Western Hemisphere, and bearing on its roll so many among the most illustrious names that adorn our political history, it must be an occasion to quicken and intensify the feeling of devotion in every patriotic heart, devotion to the highest welfare of our common country, and the assured happiness of all our countrymen, without distinction of religious creed or party affiliation.

In such a civil polity as our fathers here established, the grandest and most liberal ever known in human history, there is room for the trial of every measure which can be devised to secure the largest prosperity to the greatest number in the onward march of American civilization. Political parties must then of necessity exist, upon lines of

ESTABLISHED 1869.



NORRIS' NEW OFFICE BUILDING,
ERECTED 1880.

LOCK DRAWER 228.

CABLE ADDRESS:
NORRIS, PATENTS, WASHINGTON CITY.

OFFICES OF

JAMES L. NORRIS,
COUNSELOR IN PATENT CAUSES,
SOLICITOR OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN PATENTS,
COR. F AND FIFTH STREETS, N. W.,
NEAR U. S. PATENT OFFICE.

-2-

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

policy for the common good, which commend themselves as most fitting to secure the end in view.

The experience of the past, has proved the soundness and stability of those popular principles which Jefferson and Jackson enunciated as the creed of Democracy for all time. No grander names are inscribed on the Roll of the Republic, and no safer counsels than theirs are to be found in the archives of our nation to-day. So far as we have followed these counsels the Republic has been aggrandized. Whenever we have departed from them disaster and confusion have ensued.

That we are feeling the effects of such a departure in no slight degree must be obvious to every thinking man. The people seduced by fair promises of returning prosperity, are beginning already to see the blighting of their hopes, and the mocking of their desires.

The rejection of the Chicago Platform, at the last Presidential election, while a disappointment to its ardent friends and their gallant leader, is after all doing a substantial service in opening the eyes of the people to their mistake, and in promoting serious reflection upon the causes which are now perpetuating the business distress.

In this grand period of education, may the coming celebration of the nation's birth-day in Tammany Hall become a signal factor in producing wholesome impressions upon all our countrymen, and in preparing the people for a full return to the doctrines of those great souls who inspired and exploited in their day the principles of a pure and genuine Democracy!

With sentiments of distinguished consideration, I am,

Very truly yours,

James L. Norris.

*Asst. Treas. Democratic National Committee.
Treas. Democratic National Committee.
Pres. Jackson Democratic Association of Dist. of Col.
Member of Sen. Nat. Com. 1888-91-92*



STATE OF NEW YORK.
Assembly Chamber.

Cobleskill,

~~Albany~~ June 22d, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,
Of Committee &C.,

Dear sir:-

I accept the invitation to attend the celebration of the
Tammany Society to be held on July 4th next.

I also desire to tender my thanks to you and the members
of the Committee for the kind invitation.

Sincerely yours,

G. M. Palmer

Hoadly, Lauterbach & Johnson,
Attorneys at Law.

GEORGE HOADLY.
EDWARD LAUTERBACH. EDGAR M. JOHNSON.
WILLIAM N. COHEN. LOUIS ADLER.
FERDINAND R. MINRATH. WILLIAM H. PAGE, JR.

JOHN VERNOU BOUVIER, JR.

GH-Me

Farmers' Loan & Trust Co. Building,

22 WILLIAM ST., NEW YORK CITY.

CABLE ADDRESS, RHYTHMUS, N. Y.

June 22nd, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall, City.

My dear Sir:

The invitation of the Committee of which our friend Judge Feitner is Chairman, and you a member, to participate with the Tammany Society in celebrating the fourth of July next, is at hand and contents noted.

I regret very much that absence from the City will render it impossible for me to be present on that interesting and patriotic occasion.

The Committee are kind enough to give me an "urgent invitation to attend and address the meeting", and add that should my attendance be impossible (as it will be) "we will value an expression of your views appropriate of the 121st anniversary of our country's independence."

Answering this note in the spirit in which it is couched, permit me to say that I am a democrat, not a populist---that I have nothing in common with the views entertained, as I understand them, by populists--but that I regard the 121st anniversary of the country's independence as an appropriate occasion to renew the vows of fealty of democrats to the principles of our Democratic forefathers upon which has been built the glory of America, and

(Hon. J. C. S. No. 2)

among which, as I understand them, are the following: Sound money, based upon bullion values, as Mr. Jefferson advised, economy of administration with low taxes, civil service reform, or free government by the people as against corrupt administration by henchmen or parasites of political leaders, and free trade or ^{at least} tariff reform.

As far as Tammany Hall represents these principles, I am with it, because I recognize its services in the past, and especially in the recent administrations of Mayors Grant and Gilroy, as promising wise government in the future, uniting the maximum of personal liberty of citizens with the minimum of taxation.

Very respectfully yours,

Geo. Hooley.

The Evening Times.

Portsmouth, Va. June 22d, 1897

To

John C. Sheehan, Esqr,

Tammany Hall, New York,

Dear Sir,

I thank you for the invitation to attend the 124th anniversary celebration, by the Tammany Society, of the Fourth of July and am sorry I can not be with you.

I have a warm regard for Tammany. It has been the recipient of unlimited abuse from its enemies and has, at times been betrayed by those it thought to be its friends but, like the sturdy oak that sends its roots deeper into the ground when the storms beat against it, it has clasped closer and closer to its bosom the great principles upon which rests the faith that is in it, until now nothing can separate them from it.

Very respectfully yours,

John W. H. Porter

Editor Evening Times.

NEW LONDON, June 22, 1897.

To the Honorable Committee on invitations, etc.

Gentlemen:--

Appreciating the honor of the invitation of the Tamanny Society to take part in its celebration of the one hundred and twenty-first anniversary of American Independence, I sincerely regret my inability to accept it.

Hoping and believing that the occasion will be of National influence, promotive of the best interests of the people, the unity and harmony of the democracy of the country, and of the success of home rule and economy in the municipal election in Greater New York in November, I am,

Very truly yours,

Wm. M. Waller

To the Hon. John C. Sheehan of the Committee, etc.

20 KINGSBOROUGH AVENUE,
GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y.

June 23. 1897.

Hon John C. Sheehaw,
New York.

My dear Sir:

I thank you
for the kind invitation
for the fourth of July
celebration by the Tammany
Society, and hope to
attend. Yours very truly
John B. Johnson.

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C. June 23rd., 1897.

Hon. Jno. C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall,

New York City, New York.

Dear Sir:

Owing to a previous engagement for July 4th. in my District, it will be impossible for me to accept your invitation to be present at the Tammany Society on said date. I am, sir

Very respectfully,

(Dictated-B.)

G. A. Marshall

Paris, Texas, June 24, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Member of the Committee of Tammany Society or Columbian
Order,

Tammany Hall, N.Y. City ,

Dear Sir:

I thank your Society or Order,
for the invitation to be present and deliver an address at its celebra-
tion of the one hundred and twenty first anniversary of American Indepen-
dence.

I regret exceedingly that I can not attend. However, I beg to assure
you, that it would afford me unbounded pleasure to meet and exchange views
with my fellow countrymen and brother democrats upon the greatness and
further welfare of our common country.

The declaration of American Independence, was a declaration of war against
King-craft, and all manner of tyranny, intolerance, and oppression. From
the days of ancient ^{Feudalism} ~~Feudalism~~ the people of the old world had been
taught to believe in the divine right of Kings to govern; they looked
upon the King as a divine gift, sent booted and spurred to ride over and
rule over them, so when our declaration of Independence blazed forth all
Christendom was startled thereat.

The declaration which went forth on that July morning with the peals of
Liberty Bell that, "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men
are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain un-
alienable Rights, that among these are life, Liberty, and the pursuit of
Happiness. That to secure these rights Governments are instituted among
Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, That
whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is
the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a
new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing
its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect

their Safety and Happiness", was an innovation which startled Kings and dynasties; but the farthers who fashioned this Republic and who sent forth its declaration of Independence to the world, despising King-craft and denying the right of any one to govern, save by the consent of the people and desiring to perpetuate and hand down to succeeding generations the priceless boon of liberty thus dared to speak, and in the formation of this government the cardinal principles which were laid at the foundation of our institutions were that, this was a government of the people, that the people were the ~~source~~ source of all political power, that this government should rest upon the consent of the people, securing the "greatest good to the greatest number", and an absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority fairly expressed, as the supreme law. These ~~maxims~~ were the distinctive features of the little Republic of this western world which made it a democracy, as contradistinguished from the European forms of government. As a necessary incident to and as the champion and defender of these principles, the democratic party was organized and came into existence, founded and fathered by the same immortal patriot, whose ^{brain} had conceived and whose hand had penned the declaration of American Independence; and from the day of its birth to the present time, in war and in peace, in defeat and in victory, in civil strife, and in the dark days of re-construction, this party of the people, as an organization, has advocated, clung to and fought for these great principles as constituting the sheet-anchor and palladium of American liberty; and upon the observance of which must depend the perpetuity of this government. Yet, in the one hundred and twenty first year of our National existence these basic principles have been openly and flagrantly violated. A treaty agreement is attempted to be fastened upon this government, by the terms of which, all disputes between the United States of ~~the~~ America, and the English ~~Queen~~ ^{monarchy} are to be settled by a court of Arbitration, in which, the King of Swenden is to be the final Arbiter. The out going Cheif Executive of this Nation, elected by the people and governing by their consent, denies the power of the people, through their represenatives, the American Congress, to acknowledge the belligerency or Independence of struggling Cuba. The Spea-

ker of the house refuses to allow that branch of Congress to go ahead with the business; defies the will of the people, sets at naught the representative government of the people, inaugurates in the American Congress a one man's government, over which, he presides as an autocrat, while the other branch of congress puts in its entire time, passing a high protective tariff bill, by which, one section of our country and one class of our people will be permitted to rob and plunder other sections and other classes. All kinds of trusts and monopolies are fostered and protected at the expense of unemployed labor and unrequited toil; while the people are being as effectually enslaved under the single gold standard operated by the last and continued by the present administration as were the negroes of the south prior to the war. The president of a great University is warned ^{by its trustees} to suppress his views on the money and tariff questions.

The champion of the people and of the people's cause, the greatest since Thomas Jefferson, supported at the ballot box by seven million of unpurchasable voters is denounced as an anarchist by the money power, while one of its representatives declines even to be present at the commencement exercises of another leading University, ^{this follower of Jefferson} because this man of the people was invited to deliver the address. Is this the boast of a government, the "gem and wonder of earth"? Is this "the land of the free and home of the brave"? Where is the blood of our revolutionary sires? Shades of Washington, of Jefferson and of Jackson guard the principles upon which this government must stand.

The re-counting of these wrongs is unpleasant, but we might as well look matters squarely in the face. We, at least, should be honest with ourselves. We should not forget that the principles embodied in the declaration of American Independence was born of the American people; they belong to the American people; this is their government. "Salus populi suprema Lex est". I sometimes think it would be well for the American people to make a pilgrimage to the shrine of American liberty, and there as seventy millions of freeman calling on Almighty God and the spirits of our illustrious dead, to witness, swear anew their devotions and allegiance to our own institutions, and proclaim again the declaration of

American Independence.

Very Respectfully yours,

James G. Dudley,

Member Democratic National Committee.

Leith W. Cobb

Wm. A. Gardner

S. W. Cobb & Co.
Commission Merchants.
317 Chamber of Commerce.

St. Louis, June 24, 1897.

Hon. Jno. C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall, New York City.

My Dear Sir:--

I am in receipt of the very kind invitation of the Society, or Columbian Order, of Tammany Hall, to be present at its celebration of the 121st anniversary of American independence on July 4th. I regret exceedingly that a previous engagement prevents my acceptance of the same. The time and condition of our country, are auspicious for an interesting meeting and I should like very much to be present. I hope at least the spray from the great tidal wave of prosperity may reach you by that time and that your anniversary may be pleasant and harmonious to yourselves and profitable to the country.

I beg to remain

Yours very truly,

Leith W. Cobb

Washington June 23/97

Hon John C. Sheehan

Tammany Hall
New York

Dear Sir, I am grateful to
the Tammany Society for
its invitation to take part
in the Celebration of the One
Hundred and Twenty first
Anniversary of American
Independence and regret that
I cannot accept it.

As a Democrat I rejoice
in the fact that it is a
Democratic Society which
by its yearly Celebration
of Independence day and by
its continual teaching
keeps alive reverence for
the memory of the men who
laid the corner stone of modern
Civil liberty.

2. Born during those uncertain days when Democracy was looked upon as an experiment and while it was still the fashion to sneer at all efforts at self government, Tammany allied itself with the party of Jefferson and has since steadfastly continued on the side of the people.

Today it is regarded by the people of the West as the Stronghold of Eastern Democracy. Picket guards on the Eastern frontier you are the first to feel assaults upon national ideas and American doctrines.

Knowing the robust Americanism of the Columbian Order we of the West feel that we can trust you to repel every attack upon our national life, whether insidious or open, fiscal or forceful. When others wavered or deserted Tammany was true, and I am sure that if you were to take the sentiment of the great Democracy of the Country it would be that they loved you for the friends you made in 1846 -

Respectfully yours
James L. Shayden
12th Dist. Texas.

STATE OF COLORADO.
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
DENVER.

June 25th, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,
Tammany Hall, New York City.

Dear Sir:

I regret that official duties will deny me the pleasure of participating in the Fourth of July exercises of the Tammany Society. The nation owes much to the Society, that keeps alive the spirit of independence.

There are today moral and political battles to be fought, the issue of which is as important to the welfare of our country as were the physical battles which followed the first Independence Day.

That party which will find a solution to our financial and industrial ills, which will cut loose the tentacles of the golden octopus, that, as trusts and combinations, is seeking to usurp the powers of free government, will be as much entitled to the gratitude of the nation as the soldiers who followed Washington, Lee, Marion, Putnam and other leaders through the bloody years of the Revolution.

Yours very truly,

Wm. Adams

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C.

June 25th, 1897.

Hon. John. C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall, New York City.

My dear sir:--

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your courteous invitation for July 4th, and greatly appreciate the same. I regret that official duties will prevent my acceptance, but trust your patriotic aspirations to make the occasion one of exceptional significance and extended effect, may be more than realized.

Very respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. Stark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "M" and a stylized "S".

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C.

June 25th 1897.

Hon. James C. Sheehan,

TAMMANY HALL,

New York City.

Dear Sir :-

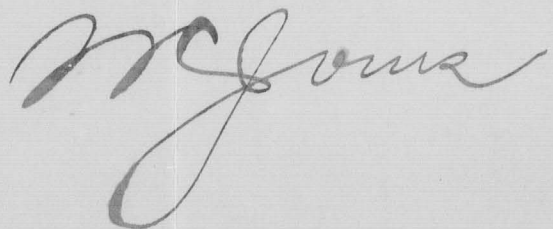
I beg leave to acknowledge receipt of your invitation to attend the Independent Anniversary Exercises to be held under the auspices of the Tammany Society on the Fourth of July next.

I shall participate in the celebration unless something, now unforeseen, prevents my doing so.

I desire to express my sincere hope that the celebration may, in every way, be auspicious of the future triumph of genuine democratic principles.

I have the honor to be,

Very Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. C. Sheehan', written in a cursive style.

CARROLLTON, ILL.,

June 24 1897

John C Sheehan Esq
New York.

Dear Sir- I acknowledge your kind
invitation to attend the celebration
of the One Hundred and Twenty-first
anniversary of American Independ-
ence by the Society of Tammany, to
my mind the greatest liberty loving
organization in the world.

I regret my inability to

attend your celebration, but send
my personal greeting, and hope
that unbounded success may
attend the great occasion.

Yours Very Truly
James McNabb

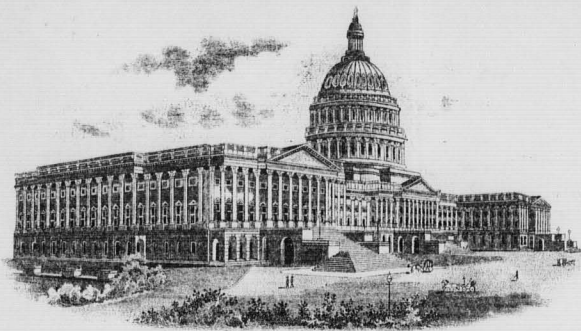
Hon John C. Sherman,
Chairman &c
Dear Sir,

I beg to acknow-
ledge the receipt of Fanny
Hall's invitation for July
Fourth next and to express
my appreciation of and
thanks for the same.

I regret to say that an en-
gagement elsewhere, made a
considerable time ago, ren-
ders me unable to accept
and derive me the pleasure
of the occasion.

Yours Very Truly
Frank Rice

Cambridge, June Twenty Sixth 1897



S. BRUNDIDGE, Jr.,
6th District, Arkansas.

House of Representatives, U.S.
Washington.

June 27th 1897.

Hon John C. Sheehan
New York
City.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of
the very kind invitation of
your Committee and in reply
will say that it will afford
me great pleasure to be
with the Tammany Society on
the 4th. The support Tammany has
given to its friends has ever
challenged my admiration, and
I am only too glad ~~to be~~ of the oppor-
tunity to be with them

Yours Truly
S. Brundidge, Jr.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, JUNE 27th, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,
Tammany Hall,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the invitation of your Committee to attend the celebration of the One hundred and twenty-first Anniversary of American independence, and in expressing my regrets at my inability to be present, I beg to convey to you my appreciation of the value of the work of your Society in the past, and wish you the success in the future, which your efforts will surely deserve.

Faithfully yours,

A W Mc Lane

Binghamton N.Y.
June 28th 1897

Hon John C. Sheehan
Tammany Hall
N.Y.

My dear Sir:

I am deeply Grateful to the
Tammany Society for their Cordial
invitation & tender to me to be
Present at its Celebration of American
Independence July 4th. A prior
engagement, I regret to say, renders
it impossible for me to attend.

Sevenly millions of people under
the "Stars & Stripes" will receive
inspiration from the Patriotic

utterances made in Tammany Hall
upon that day: By such occasions
are the Citizens of this Country
baptized anew in the political
faith of the fathers of Freedom
Equality and Independence.
Long live Tammany Society, the Champion
and friend of the People.

Faithfully Yours

James C. Truman

Russellville, Ala., June 28th, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir!

I return to you a full measure of gratitude for the courteous invitation to address the loyal Democrats of Tammany Hall, on July 4th, 1897, when they will celebrate the one hundred and twenty first anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence.

I sincerely regret, that business engagements will prevent an acceptance of your invitation; however, I cheerfully respond to your request, that in the event circumstances rendered it impossible for me to be present, you would "value an expression of my views appropriate to the occasion."

In reviewing the more than century of our political history, we find that the currency and tariff issues born with our Federal Constitution, still survive, and upon these questions the Democratic and Republican parties are now divided and intrenched in hostile camps.

If I have read aright the history of the Democratic party, - if I have imbibed the true spirit of the teachings of Jefferson who bodied forth with his own hand the Declaration of Independence and bore as large a part in that "contest to which America was summoned in her cradle" - and Jackson - who defended his country upon the field and vetoed the extension of the Bank of the United States as President, the Chicago platform is a fair, full and unequivocal expression of the principles for which Democracy has stood for more than a century.

It is my deliberate judgement, that when our National Convention assembles in 1900, that platform will be readopted without a shadow of change; the brave and true-hearted Bryan nominated by acclamation and called by a safe majority to rule for a season the destinies of this great country.

The lines of battle are already drawn, and in my humble judgement the currency will be the dominant issue in the next contest. All other questions are secondary and subordinate, and the people never have been disposed to settle but one great question at a time. To pursue any other policy, the Democratic party would invite defeat and commit political suicide.

The Republican party won victory in 1860 by a progressive and aggressive policy and continued in power for a quarter of a century by steadily pursuing the same course; but now, for the first time in its history, it has abandoned a policy of action for that of non-action on the greatest living issue, the currency.

The huge leviathan which has so often rode the stormy deep in triumph, - is now helpless on the strand!

Yours Very Truly,

Wm. L. Bullock

Yonkers, N.Y. June 28th. 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Dear Sir,

Your kind invitation to ~~be~~ present at the celebration of American independence, the one-hundred and twenty first received.

I am in full sympathy with your grand organization and the event it celebrates and regret very much that a prior engagement will not permit me to be present that day,

I am dear sir,

Yours most respectfully,

James P. Dunn

William A. Howett,

Thomas M. Jett,

Law Office of
Howett & Jett.

Willsboro, Ill. June 28th, 1897

Hon. John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall,

New York City, N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

The invitation extended to me by your committee to be present on July 4th and ~~at~~ join with you in the celebration of the one hundred twenty-first anniversary of American Independence has been received, and I will assure you it will give me great pleasure to join your organization in the exercises at the time and place stated. I will be in Washington the balance of this week and will be pleased to run up to New York and be with your great organization on the day in question.

I am

Very Respectfully,

Thos M. Jett,

157. High Street.

Portland June 29 1897

Thomas L. Frazier & als-

Members of Com. of Tammammy Society or
Columbian Order-

Gentlemen

I am sorry
that a previous engagement will prevent
me from accepting your invitation to
be present with you in celebrating the
121st anniversary of American Inde-
pendence - I am sure the occasion
will be one characterized by speakers
present of no ordinary ability. The
times demand that every patriotic
citizen should act with wisdom & con-
servatism - a strong and earnest
protest should go up from this meeting
against the proposed tariff legislation
now before Congress - utterly devoid of
principle, as all protective tariff is,
this entirely ignores even any pretence
to principle. While each member
seems determined on gaining
all advantage that may ostensibly
appear, in order to curry favor with
his local constituency - In not a few

157. High Street.

Portland

189

instances. flourishing industries
are threatened with absolute paral-
ysis. that have grown up under
a more liberal policy. While many
of our manufacturing interests
will materially suffer from being
cut off from foreign markets
on account of either the material
advance in cost of manufacture,
from enhanced value of raw ma-
terials, or an inferior class of man-
ufactured products. The consumer
must pay the excessive cost, while
the large mass of the producing
population receive no benefit what-
ever - To oppose this ruinous legis-
lation should be the effort of every
intelligent citizen - The burden of
government should be borne by the
people more equally, ~~and~~ and a policy
which gives us the markets of the world
equally with the other nations, must
be the basis of renewed prosperity -

Very truly yours
S. C. Gordon

Mem. Dr. Nat. Corn. Maine

Muskogee, I. T., June 29, 1897.

H O N O R A B L E S

Thomas L. Feitner, John C. Sheehan, Nathan
Straus, George B. McClellan, John B. McGoldrick and Augustus
W. Peters,

C O M M I T T E E , Tammany Society or Columbian Order,

NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK.

Gentlemen:

Your very courteous and flattering invitation to me to
be present and address Tammany Society on the 4 of July, upon the
subject of the one hundred twenty-first anniversary of American
Independence, has been duly received, for which I sincerely thank
you on behalf of the great army of patriots I have the honor to
represent in this Territory, as well as on my own account.

I can conceive of no greater pleasure than to be pres-
ent on the occasion named and deliver an address upon the cherish-
ed subject of our National Independence, but I regret exceedingly
that my professional engagements render it impossible to avail
myself of the honor of doing so.

I am proud to feel and know that I share in the high
appreciation with hundreds of thousands of others of the truest and
best patriots of America, of the inextinguishable patriotism of
Tammany Society.

Occassions of this kind arouses the sentiments of
patriotism in all true Americans. They carry us back to the memor-
able struggles of our Revolutionary Fathers and kindles anew in our

(2)

hearts the fire of the Revolution which burn in the hearts of every lover of freedom.

The dawn of American freedom will and should be celebrated through all the ages to come.

For nearly six thousand years the fearful spirit of oppression prevailed before the principles of human liberty, civil and ecclesiastical were clearly and fully set forth, even on paper. This was first done by Thomas Jefferson in 1776 in the Declaration of Independence. All are aware of the efforts of the same old spirit of oppression to summon its forces against the party of freedom. The opponents of human freedom hated Jefferson for his glorious efforts in favor of the freedom of mankind. They pursued him with maledictions to the grave and still break through the sanctity of the tomb to blacken his memory. But alas it is consoling beyond description to the American patriot to know that the sentiment of freedom, the foundation upon which this Government rests is too great ever to be subdued. Without such sentiments all hope of future civilization would be abandoned and anarchy would prevail.

The celebration of the birth day of our National Independence is a source of consolation to all Americans, not so much because of the day itself, but because of the achievements of our noble sires. The influences of such demonstrations of appreciation of the unselfish patriotic deeds of those whose blood paid for the liberty we enjoy are elevating to mankind and swells our National pride, and I would to God that every American could realize on this day to the fullest extent the amount of courage, bloodshed and privations it cost our ancestors for the boon of the freest and best Government on this earth, a Government of, by and for the whole

(3)

people. We might well afford to pattern in some respects after the ancients, who set up ~~of~~ statues of renowned citizens in the most public resorts to keep passing generations in remembrance of the worthies whose patriotism and piety they ought to emulate. Sometimes filial love induced admiring disciples to bring garlands, not with the vain hope of add^{ing} to the intrinsic elegance of the venerated form, but simply to wreath around its brow a token of fond regard.

Our heroes of Revolutionary fame had to struggle against all that was powerful in mental energy and martial force and do battle against the most fearful odds. England had her orators, such as she never knew before or since; she had her accomplished Mansfield in West Minister Hall, who constantly raised his voice in support of ~~k~~ingly power, while the philosophic and argumentative Camden exercised his mighty intellect in defence of popular rights. Burke awoke with all his wealth of fancy, daring imagination and comprehensive learning. Fox entered the arena of forensic and senatorial gladiatorship with his great, glowing heart and titanic passions all kindled to volcanic heat. Junius by his sarcasm and audacity stung the loftiest circles into desperation. Erskine embellished the darkened heavens by the rainbow tints of his genius, and Chatham ruled the billowy sea of excited mind with the majesty of a God.

The antagonist came into open field; empires were at stake and the struggle was worthy of the prize as ~~to the~~ ^{the} result was to those heroes we delight to commemorate.

Eloquence in America was then a system of the most invigorating gymnastics. The orators of the American Colonies hurled accusations and argument into the bosom of the populace and

(4)

aroused universal rebellion against regal wrongs.

The mightiest array of orators presented on this side of the water whose powers of eloquence and logic were absolutely invincible, were Patrick Henry, "the sublimest and most magnificent phenomenon of creation," The blazing brand of Heaven which flashed upon the earth and arrested the careering steeds of Diomed, was not more appalling to their affrighted driver, than were the awful denunciations which Henry hurled against tyranny and guilt." But as well might one attempt to describe the lightning with charcoal, as to delineate a soul like his in dull words. He was Garrick and Shakespeare combined." Otis, elevated in thought, dwelt with greatest delight in the calm contemplation of the lofty principles which should govern political and moral conduct- a master of wit, Samuel Adams, Josiah Quincy, John Hancock, Joseph Warren, John Adams, Richard Henry Lee, Fisher Ames and others, whose oratorical powers were never excelled in any age or country, were most prominent in the awful conflict.

The original chart of American Liberty was drawn up and signed in the cabin of the Mayflower. It was a civil compact based on republican principles and sanctioned by religious faith. Such men as Carver, Bradford, Brewster and Winslow blessed in God's name our Nation in its cradle and patriotic teachers of religion have ever since fostered its growth.

The Revolutionary war which brought independence to us as a Nation was a struggle imposed upon our fathers, and not sought by them. Injustice was the cause of their resistance and all willingly shared in the performance of a duty which none could doubt. Those who led in the church and those who led in the field were impelled by one conviction and all labored together

(5)

with one and the same design. One taught the law of justice, the other defended it; one was the voice of God, the other was his arms.

George Washington, the greatest hero of them all, the wise, courageous leader in battle, led the American host to the conflict, and finally to victory whereby the grandest trophy known to all history was secured and transmitted to posterity, which, I hope, may pass on unimpaired through all the ages to come. It is a heritage, a blessing worthy of American pride forever. Its cost was so much, the struggle so grand, the prize so glorious and so just, as to make the heart of every lover of liberty thrill with gratitude now and forever.

I congratulate Tammany Society and the assembled multitude at Tammany Hall for their generous presence and manifestation of gratitude and loyalty to the imperishable principles and noble deeds of our fathers, whose fame and renown is as broad as the Universe, and whose memory will live green and bright through time in the hearts of their remotest posterity.

The liberty we enjoy as the heritage of the revolution "will only be preserved by steady determination and systematic habit, by the practice of those virtues of fortitude and self command, most difficult, whether for Nations or individuals. Liberty can only exist in fellowship with law. Whatever the glories of our past history, however grand our present, however brilliant our future, it is vain to suppose that American freedom can be maintained except just so long as our people shall exhibit the capacity justly and intelligently to administer, and the disposition steadily and loyally to obey the Government of written law."

Hearts and minds attracted by the subject of the occasion are truly grateful and it is gratifying in no ordinary

(6)

degree to liberty loving Americans to realize as we must do from such demonstrations that the lofty sentiments of pure unalloyed patriotism which actuated our lamented fathers still lives and animates the American heart.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Thas Marcum

National Democratic Committee-
man, Indian Territory.

THE EVANSVILLE COURIER COMPANY,

ESTABLISHED 1845.

INCORPORATED 1895.

JOHN GILBERT SHANKLIN,
EDITOR.

EVANSVILLE, IND.,

June 30, 1897.

My Dear Sir:-

I have postponed answering your invitation to the celebration of the Fourth of July by the Tammany Society, or Columbian Order, hoping that I could arrange to attend but at the last moment I find it will not be practicable to leave home even for so important and interesting an occasion.

Your Society has been contemporaneous with the life of the Republic. It was among the earliest proselytes ^{to} ~~of~~ liberty and has been its staunch defender except when self-seeking men have occasionally seized and used its powers for their own purposes. But with the strength of a giant the Tammany Society has always shaken off at last and trampled under foot those who would place the halter around its neck. Its office will never end because in the various and changing conditions which the restless spirit of ever increasing intelligence is bringing into our social and political life opportunities are open for the ambitious to make sacrifice of those principles which the Revolution established. The power to be dreaded now is that which rudely thrusts aside every sentiment and aspiration that money may be glorified. Patriotism, civic virtue, morality in its comprehensive sense, all of these qualities and the men who illustrate them in their own lives have been the objects before which the Tammany Society has held up its shield and it will not forsake them now.

In the platform of the National Democratic party enunciated in Chicago in 1896 we find a re-assertion of the principles and aspirations contained in the great instrument which the Tammany Society is about to celebrate. It does not contain an utterance or an impulse that could not be found with some variation of expression in the Declaration of

THE EVANSVILLE COURIER COMPANY,

ESTABLISHED 1845.

INCORPORATED 1895.

JOHN GILBERT SHANKLIN,
EDITOR.

EVANSVILLE, IND.,

Independence. To the propaganda of Jefferson's philosophy through all the years since it was first proclaimed I send my cordial and respectful greetings to those who may be assembled under Tammany's hospitable roof with the inward assurance that in the breasts of its members the principles of liberty and absolute equality before the law will ever find their safest rampart.

Thanking you for your invitation and regretting sincerely that I cannot accept it I have the honor to be

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

John Gilbert Shanklin.

To The Honorable

John C. Sheehan,

Tammany Hall,

New York, N. Y.

Harmon, Colston, Goldsmith & Hoadly,
Attorneys at Law

JUDSON HARMON,
A. W. GOLDSMITH,

EDWARD COLSTON,
GEORGE HOADLY, JR.

St. Paul Building,
NO. 111 E. FOURTH ST.
Cincinnati, O.

June 30, 1897.

Hon. John C. Sheehan
Tammany Hall
New York:

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the invitation of the Tammany Society to attend its celebration of the coming anniversary of American Independence.

I am very sorry that I shall be unable to be present. Your Society has made these patriotic meetings memorable, and I am sure no lover of the principles whose successful establishment has glorified the day on which they were first formally declared could decline your invitation without sincere regret.

Your Society, by these celebrations, has done much to keep alive the patriotic spirit without which strife between parties and within parties would sometimes involve grave peril to all that makes Independence Day worth celebrating.

Very Sincerely Yours

Judson Harmon