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THE LEGISLATIVE REUNION.

Synopsis of Proceedings of the First Reunion held in the state capitol at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 10th. The assemblage was a notable one, as many prominent individuals distinguished for their public services, and the names of many of a state repute. The earlier legislatures were very well represented. The great number of healthy and vigorous old men was a conspicious feature of the assemblage.

The desks had been removed from the floors and chairs to the number of 600 afforded sufficient seating, the number present being less than 500. The galleries were crowded to the last degree, the occupants being chiefly ladies.

Ex-Gov. Alpheus Felch presided. The entrance of Gov. Alger, ex-Gov. Begole and ex-Senator Ferry, who were escorted to places under the speaker's canopy, was the signal for applause.

A selection of Scriptures was read by Rev. W. H. Brooks, who served in the House in 1865 and 1871.

Gov. Alger's speech of welcome was short, graceful and scintillant. He rightly assumed that those present needed no welcome to Lansing, the capital city of the state. They were at home in them and looked over the changes approvingly. He rejoiced to know that the meeting was in every way so successful and hoped that it would be repeated at the same time reunions to be held regularly hereafter. The meeting signal triumph of the power of friendship and the graces of oratory.

The address was opened by the ceremonial exercises conducted by Rev. Solomon M. Dutcher, a member of the House of 1857. Mr. Johnson called for an innovation upon the usual ceremonial, and requested the singing of "Coronation." Now then, all together—let's go in for a good time," he proceeded to line the hymn.

"All hail the power of Jesus' name.
Let angels prostrate fall
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At the age of 80 years Hon. Edward M. Barrow upon the stage caused was an interesting figure in the Republican battle which resulted in the choice of Lansing. The development from the forest to the present magnificent state was magnificent and Mr. Barrow was eloquently sketched. The address formed a splendid historical review of the wisdom of the choice and a study of the influences which have operated upon legislation and the dispatch of business at the state capitol.

Probably the address most attentively listened to was that of Hon. D. L. Crosman, for many years clerk in the House of Representatives. This address recounted the incidents of legislative reminiscences. It was a little history of the Senatorial contests of 1851, 1875, 1879, 1881 and 1883, the three-days' delay in the deadlock in 1855 was told and the fluctuating, closely contested struggle in 1857 which resulted in John J. Bagley went down in 1879 to 1880. The long struggle of 1881 in which, after eight-one ballots and roll calls, involving the reputation of 30,000 names and the writing out of not less than 10,000 votes, in which 121 different names were balloted for, and in which Gov. Jerome B. Palmer, were vividly told. A joke of A. M. Maxwell upon his brother member, Rev. W. W. Brown, was told amid vast laughter. Anecdotes were related of members of different legislatures.

Volunteer speeches being in order, Rep. Alfred Noble, of Wayne county, was called out. He began by extolling the pine-clad hills of Newago, its babbling brooks and swift-gliding rivers, declaring that while he loved Michigan, the center of his affections was devoted to his own county. He had come to enjoy old acquaintance and to enjoy himself with the rest, and was not prepared for speech. Proceeding then to discourse of Detroit, to the beautiful Detroit river scenery and the obstinacy of its representatives, the laughter became so great as to interrupt the speaker and he sat down leaving the remarks unfinished.

Ex-Congressman Horr was next called upon, and the rules were suspended because he objected that not being a member of the House he could not speak. He consented, however, in an entertaining vein to contrast a half century of progress in Massachusetts one, and to descant upon the appearance of members before him, declaring that if Michigan had gone ahead for fifty years with such countenances as were before him there was hope that she would continue to survive to the last. He congratulated the legislature and declared he was glad to have been present at the reunion.

Senator Conger spoke for ten minutes pleasantly of the pride and gratification which the reunion of old friends had afforded him, and related an anecdote of the tenderness of the late Senator Ferry during the bills of the House, with the result which it had upon a stalwart Representative.

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At the close of his address Col. McReynolds made the resolution in favor of the Mexican war, passed by the legislature of 1847 with but two opposing votes, saying that it showed the preponderance of feeling of the people on the war question.

H. B. Lathrop of Ionia, said he was one of the last that voted against that resolution, but that his vote was not because he opposed war measures, but because of the vindictiveness in the wording of the resolution itself.

A. W. Landon of Niles, said he was present at the passage of the resolution in question, and was glad to learn that there really was no opposition to it.

The remark was applauded, the audience evidently appreciating in the mood to stir up debate among the veterans of 1847.

The afternoon exercises closed with an eloquent address by Hon. Wm. P. Wells, the subject being "The Legislature." The address was a masterful one. The matter as well as the manner of Mr. Wells' address was such as to fix the close attention of the audience at the close of a session that was long, but in which the interest was so great as to be unwearying. It was a splendid historical review of the legislature of the state,