

been for twenty-five years, and, further, that he was in favor of the next war.

FAVORABLE TO CINCINNATI.

I beg to assure you that during the seven years' life of the O. H. A. we have been in favor of coming to Cincinnati.

And surely since your hearty welcome, we are in favor of being here now.

I will assume the prerogative of secretary and cast the unanimous ballot of the association in favor of coming back again.

From the time our association accepted the invitation of the hardware dealers of Cincinnati to hold its seventh annual meeting in their hospitable city, only once did I feel that our visit might not be a complete success and that we would return to our homes satisfied and delighted.

RIVER HAS RESUMED BUSINESS.

This was when, last October, I stood, with our esteemed member and local committeeman, George B. Meyer, on the lookout on Walnut Hills, and saw all the boats tied up, with the river fordable most anywhere, and with as good signs of falling lower as rising higher. I was apprehensive lest the O. H. A. would come to Cincinnati and go home thirsty.

Now that the river has resumed business in the old channel, it is comforting to know that there can be no excuse offered by any member for going home otherwise than sober.

A LOT OF BUCKEYES.

We are a lot of Buckeyes, picked from the hardware trees on the borders of Hoosierdom on the west, from the shores of the (now frozen) lakes on the north, to the banks of the Ohio on the south and east. We are largely Buckeye born and Buckeye bred, and when we are gone there will be a lot of Buckeyes dead.

Perhaps if you were as well acquainted with hardware men as I am, you would have called for the report of the committee on credentials 'ere you were so lavish in your dispensation of liberty. However, inasmuch as you have been so generous, I accept the trust, in the name of the association, and assure you we will prove ourselves worthy guests of an honored host.

EFFORTS ARE APPRECIATED.

And now, Mr. Mayor, again thanking you, we wish to assure our friends, manufacturers, jobbers, retailers, that their combined efforts for our comfort and pleasure—evidence of which we have already received—are sincerely appreciated, and to express the wish that, as in the past, so in the future, your city may so happily combine the arts and industries that she may be to the whole country what she will ever be to Ohioans—the Queen City.

Vice-President Bogardus: The next item on our program is a few remarks from the Chairman of the Cincinnati Local Committee of Arrangements, Mr. S. D. Baldwin, of the Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co., of this city. I don't know whether he has his knife with him or not. We will find that out.

(Applause.)

ADDRESS BY S. D. BALDWIN.

(Chairman Local Committee of Arrangements.)
Mr. President and Members of The Ohio Hardware Association:

We have listened to the address of His Honor, the Mayor, granting you the freedom of our city, and have heard your worthy President accept all the privileges that go with the O. H. A. badges you wear.

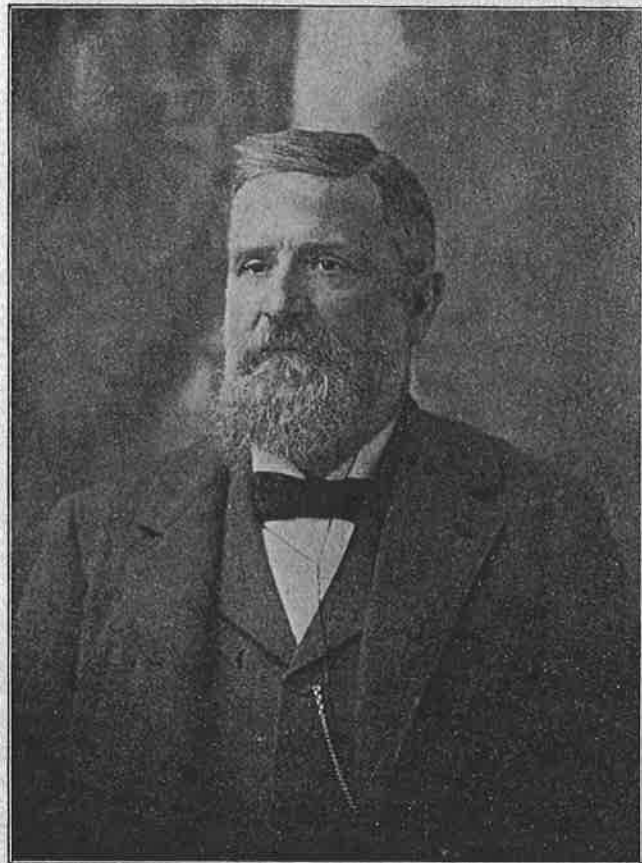
On behalf of the local Manufacturers, Jobbers and Retailers, we welcome you heartily and hope your deliberations will be successful.

was taken to properly allow the victory to "soak" in, when arrangements were begun for your visit this year.

Now it devolves upon our Committee to see that you make good use of your opportunities and enjoy your visit with us to the utmost.

We were told in the beginning that under no circumstances must we intrude on the sessions of your convention. Your worthy President has consented to deliver you into our hands at early candle lighting, with the solemn promise that we are to return you by 9 a. m. next morning, ready for business.

We have provided for this evening what our Entertain-



President Orlando M. Scott, Marysville.

R=261413

ment Committee is pleased to call "A Bohemian Smoker and Vaudeville," and the Chairman of that Committee says he is now ready for you.

We will expect your presence at Scottish Rite Cathedral tonight. Wear the special badge provided and we will have duly accredited representatives there to punch it before you get in, and again before you get out.

Wednesday evening, as the program says, "Banquet at the Armory." This will be a modest affair, but fortunately the room is large enough for expansion to the size to which we expect you may grow this year. The First Regiment Band will be there and you will hear some music, if nothing else.

The banquet tickets provide a space for signature. It will assist us very much in handling the crowd if you will sign your tickets in advance.

We provide this ticket for two purposes: First, to tell us just which ones go to dinner, and, second, to assist you in "proving an alibi," if necessary, when you get back home.

Thursday evening will be given over to theater parties, and other things, too.

The ladies have been promised "Protection," and we have a most excellent committee to look after their comfort.