

TIVE, REFERENDUM D RECALL NO FIELD N NATIONAL POLITICS

NTATIVE GOVERNMENT, AS CON- BY FRAMERS OF CONSTITUTION, FE BULWARK OF CIVIL LIBERTY

Departing from Path Established by the Fathers

DELIVERED BY MR. UNDERWOOD BEFORE CATHOLIC
CLUB OF NEW YORK CITY DECEMBER 19, 1911.

The purpose of government is the protection of life, liberty and prop-
erty. The safeguarding of property rights is essential to the advancement of
the nation. It is not always awake to the realization that the just enforcement of
the law is more essential to good government than the enactment of new
laws. A century and a half ago the Federal Constitution was written;
the pattern in its fundamental features for our State Constitutions.
It had experimented with almost every conceivable method of govern-
ment for thousands of years before the birth of our republic. The statesmen
of the form of the new government were essentially students of the
government and lovers of the liberties of the people. Most of
them lived their lives and their fortunes in the struggle for their country's
freedom. No man can justly charge them with either lack of informa-
tion or of the essential principles of government, or want of honesty
in the creation of a government that would secure to themselves and their
posterity the perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic Tranquility,
promote the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the
Liberty to themselves and their Posterity.

World's First Written Constitution.

It is claimed to be the world's first written Constitution, created a gov-
ernment in absolute contradistinction to a government of men. The
Federal Constitution were familiar with the repeated fail-
ures based on the principle of a direct democracy, where the
people direct law-making power and in some instances the ultimate
of the country.

Dangers of a Direct Democracy.

History of the past that those governments had failed
liberties of the people had been destroyed by the
marked the administration of a government where
forum by the assembled multitude, and were not the
men especially trained for the work in hand.
The lure of every direct Democracy was due not to
those on the part of the aggregate citizenship as to
to establish a government that would protect the
individual and at the same time reflect ultimately
the enactment of the law of the land.

Representative Form of Government.

When they established a representative form of govern-
ment, they made power responsive to the will of the
people. They wrote in the Constitution certain checks and
balances to the more brutal force of a majority from de-
priving rights of the individual.
In a mind that the framers of our Constitution were
of freedom of Government, for they created a Gov-
ernment of delegated powers expressly given to the Nation by
the States. The States the right to make most of the laws that
the citizen. The underlying principle of the Consti-
tution is the liberty of the citizen and the protection of his
power of the Government itself.

Independent Judiciary Established.

These rights, an independent judiciary was established
Executive nor the Legislative branches of the Govern-
ment the guaranteed rights of the individual.
The framers of the Constitution were unwilling to trust
body, held in check by the veto power of the Executive;
unbridled abuse of the power, they established Constitu-
tional liberty that a majority of the people could not trample
itself destroy.

Unwise Changes Now Proposed.

It is true that we shall in part abandon the representative
Revolutionary fathers, and adopt a system that in
direct democracy when the ultimate power to make
is in the hands of all the people, and the independent
of the Constitutional guarantees of individual liberty
to the will of the majority through political com-
pulsion and Hamilton, soldiers in the war for Ameri-
can their great minds and mature judgments to the
of the United States, but there is one whose sincere
substantiated as to the value of a representative government
to one, even by those who doubt the sincerity of pur-
posions of other men.

Jefferson's Wise Views.

"The equal rights of man," Thomas Jefferson declared:
"We have the signal advantage, too, of having discovered
by which these rights can be secured, to wit: Govern-
ment being not in person, but by representatives chosen

Separation of Independence, knowing that all popular

resting on the direct decisions of the people, had
reverted into uncontrolled despotism, rejoiced that
a representative government could express the will
proposed to abandon the representative principle
by our fathers and revert to the direct action of
ple of an Athenian democracy adapted to modern

Government Only Check on Excesses and Passion.

Government was established to guard against the ex-
cesses of the ancient direct popular government to destruction,
it does not at all times immediately respond to public
opinion, but they insist that the principle of government is at
all times. They do not reflect that at times they may mis-
take, that at other times the instrument of the govern-
ment whom the people can change at recurring periods)
the principle of the government itself.
The legislator leads me to believe that the Congress of the
people ultimately respond to the enlightened and matured
of public sentiment, we have repeatedly experienced
the taxing powers.
The legislative branch of the government in direct respon-
sive to the people enact railroad rate legislation, pure food
city of campaign funds, national quarantine, irrigate
the Isthmian Canal. Can it be truthfully said that
to place on the statute books the laws that

TIME TO ABANDON UNWORTHY SECTIONAL ABASEMENT

The most humiliating paradox in
American politics to-day is the shrink-
ing attitude of some of our own people
toward the presidential possibilities of
Southern men.

The civil war, the memories of which
furnished the nursery for this indefensi-
ble sectional abasement, is 50 years at
our back. Ninety per cent of the Ameri-
can voters who elect a president re-
member this war and its dividing rancor
only as history. With outstretched
hands, having given every proof of view-
ing Mason and Dixon's line as no more
a political barrier than the Mississippi
or the Rockies, the dominant generation
at the North invites the South, its pub-
lic men, by right of citizenship and by
right of demerited ability, into full
fellowship in the nation's councils.

South Wanting in Boldness

What has been the answer of the
South—at least, the answer that may be
interpreted by the silence or the diffi-
dence of hundreds of thousands of rep-
resentative Southerners?

Obsessed by the ghosts of half a cen-
tury ago, guilty of an embarrassment
and a self-consciousness that is nothing
short of arrant sectional cowardice,
there is a feeling among many South-
erners that the wraiths of the sixties
still stand between the South and the
White House—the South and that par-
ticipation in the nation's voice, the na-
tion's destiny, to which the nation is
eager to admit us.

The consequences of this abnegation of
common manhood could not be more
forcefully portrayed than in the words
of the *Constitution's* Washington corre-
spondent, in a dispatch discussing the
presidential status resulting from the
Harvey-Wilson-Watterson episode. "If
he," writes our correspondent, canvass-
ing the possibilities of Oscar Under-
wood, the brilliant Alabamian, along
with other Southerners, "pays the pen-
alty of being a Southern man, it will be
the South and not the North to ex-
act it."

Southern Politics: Stage Fright

That is also an accurate delineation

A New Leader From the South

"The President's veto, of course, de-
stroyed the Free List Bill, as well as
all the other features of the Democratic
platform. The special session, however,
was not without far-reaching results.
Its chief accomplishments were a re-or-
ganized Congress and a resurrected
Democratic majority under a new lead-
ership. It also emphasized the new
part which the Southern States are now
playing in national affairs. With a
Southerner as Chief Justice, a Southerner
as majority leader in Congress, and
Southerners as prominent candidates for
the Democratic presidential nomination
—Clark, Underwood and Wilson—the
nation is certainly more united than at
any time since the Civil War. No man
rejoices more over this changed situa-
tion than Underwood. He is even more
interested in the solidarity of the forty-
eight States than in the union of the
Democratic party."—Burton J. Hen-
drix in *McClure's Magazine*, February,
1912.

Alabama's Candidate

Mr. Underwood's service to the country
during nine terms in the National
House of Representatives has been most
distinguished, and has made his name a
household word in the homes of the
people. For more than 20 years he has
been in the very front of his party's
battle line, a leader from his youth, and
ever faithful to his party's principles
and candidates. No Democrat can find
a flaw in his political record; no charge
of desertion in any campaign; no ac-
cusation of serving special interests can
lie against him.
His congressional colleagues respect
him for his sincerity, his high sense of
honor, his sagacity and his acknowl-
edged ability, and this in itself is an
infallible proof of his merit, for none
know so well the capabilities of a
statesman as those who have served
many years with him and noted his
conduct in days of peace and those of
political storm.—*Cincinnati Enquirer*,
October 23, 1911.

(Continued from First Column.)

The response may not be as rapid, but it is probably more permanent and
there is certainly not much danger of enacting hasty, ill-considered or bad
legislation.

Cannot a committee of the Congress, composed of representative men,
initiate legislation, within the limitations of the Constitution, guard against ex-
cesses and abuses, protect the rights of the minority, voice the wishes of the
majority, as well or better than the partisan friends of a measure who, in order
that they may accomplish one result, are tempted to reach so far that they
leave a wake of destruction as to collateral matters the measure touches?

Untrustworthiness of Petitions.

It is true, that under the system proposed, a petition by a percentage of
voters would first have to be obtained. But let every man ask himself how
often he has signed petitions to please or get rid of the person who presented
the paper, to determine what thought and deliberation will be exercised by
the average man who signs a petition.

People Suffer More From Failure of Law Enforcement Than From Lack of Proper Legislation.

Should I stop to criticize our government, I would say that the people suffer
far more from the failure to enforce the laws on the statute books than they do
from the lack of proper legislation. How many remedial laws are to be
found on the statute books, that if fairly enforced would remedy the evils
we complain against; but it is so much easier to cry out for new legislation
than to insist that our neighbor shall go to jail for violating the law we al-
ready have.

If there are evils in our government as it exists today, it is not in its
organic form. It is due to the failure of those in office to honestly, fairly
and justly perform the duties imposed upon them. The remedy is plain
and the way is clear. The people should drive from the places of power and
responsibility the unfaithful servant and elect those who will be faithful and
true to the trust imposed upon them.

The People and the Representatives.

You tell me the people cannot elect honest and faithful servants. I tell you
that the masses of the people are far better judges of men than they are of
measures, and are far more likely to select an honest man than an honest
measure.
When you say that the voter cannot select a public official who will reflect
the will of the people in his office, and be faithful to the Constitution of his
country, I say you reflect on the very first principle of free government and
misjudge the honesty and the intelligence of the American people.
Our Constitution was born in the hour when the love of liberty and freedom
were ripe in the hearts of men. For a century it has withstood the storms of
war, greed, and intolerance; through the tempests of discontent, danger and
disaster, it has protected the lives, liberty and property of our people.
Let us elect honest men to public office, men who have the courage to stand
for the truth.

of the manner in which the North views
the situation. We use Underwood only
as an illustration, though his magnificent
record as House leader during the spe-
cial session would, as our correspondent
declares, have assured his nomination
"with a sweep"—had he lived at the
North! To the North, it makes no dif-
ference where Underwood, or any other
one of the galaxy being discussed, was
born. The representative Northerner
does not bridle at mention of Bull Run
or Gettysburg. It remains for the South
to develop political stage fright over
these diminishing chapters in our his-
tory. The last smouldering embers of
sectional acrimony were stamped out by
the Spanish-American war. The last
barriers between North and South were
crumbled before the achievements of
Joe Wheeler, of Fitzhugh Lee, and of
many of the younger generation on both
sides.

The most convincing evidence of this
fact is the manner in which the nation
received the announcement of the broad
and patriotic action of President Taft
in elevating Justice White, a Confed-
erate veteran, to the Chief Justiceship of
the United States Supreme Court. A
protesting snarl rose here and there
from the irreconcilables. And the voices
most bitter in denunciation of that
judicious came from—the Northern
press! It is only essential for the occa-
sional freak firebrand to rise and at-
tempt to wave the "bloody shirt," to be
buried with ridicule, not only by his
confères, but as well by the news-
papers of all sections of our common
country.

Not a Question of Expediency or Discretion

In the face of these cumulative facts,
there are some in the South who still
question if, "on account of past of-
fenses," it is "discreet" or "expedient"
for a Southern man to offer himself for
presidential honors! We insult our-
selves, we debase our manhood, we sur-
render the rights the North is so willing
to concede us, when we permit our

Underwood for President

The argument that he lives too far
South to be available is without weight.
The country has reached that state of
union—has been so closely drawn to-
gether by railroad and telegraph—that
Alabama is brought to the door of New
York, Massachusetts and Texas are near
neighbors and even the two Portlands,
of Maine and Oregon, stand within easy
hailing distance of each other. So far
as any feeling of sectionalism is con-
cerned, or any prejudice against the se-
lection of a Southern man for the presi-
dency, Underwood is, like Lincoln,
native of Kentucky, and therefore as
much Northern as Southern, was born
during the Civil War, and grew to man-
hood after the old bitterness between
North and South had died out. He is
a big, brainy, courageous man.—*Balti-
more Sun*, July 26, 1911.

Underwood Presi- dential Timber

Mr. Underwood would make an ideal
President. He is a broad-gauged, level-
headed citizen; he doesn't slip his cere-
bral cogs and get off at a tangent as a
rabid exponent of revolutionary dogmas
in an effort to popularize himself; he is
uniformly courteous to all men; he be-
lieves in reducing the high cost of liv-
ing in this country, not talking about it;
he does not believe in destroying the
industries of the United States while at
the same time he is a thorough believer
in the principles of tariff for revenue
only.

There is no flub-dub about Mr. Underwood. He doesn't believe in shams.
He is a big, brawny, brainy statesman,
without his lightning rod out to attract
the Democratic nomination for the presi-
dency, and largely on that very account
he is liable to be the very man that will
elevate him to the White House.—J. W.
Fleming, in the *Times-Democrat*, Mus-
kegee, Okla., October 28, 1911.

(Continued from First Column.)

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for the truth.

course, as a people, to be so interpreted.
It is not in human nature to accord
respect, where self-respect is absent.
How, then, can we expect the remainder
of the nation to continue to respect us,
when we grovel in the dust of a by-
gone era, and let go by default the
rights inherent in American manhood?
For virtually half a century the South
has furnished the hewers of wood and
drawers of water for the Democratic
party. It has, faithfully with each re-
current four years, furnished the Demo-
cracy's army and its line officers—cheer-
fully yielding command to other sections.
With a smile, it has steadily forsworn
the political loaves and fishes, content,
for the sake of the party, that they go
to doubtful States—time and again to
States most of us knew at the time were
steel-riveted Republican.

Let Us Claim Our Birthright

For 50 years we have eaten in the
political kitchen. Consistently, we have
waxed cheerful when denied even the
dubious privilege of the second table.
And to-day, when the clock of destiny
strikes, when the door of opportunity is
wide ajar, when the North actually lives
up to that prophetic utterance in the
Senate of Ben Hill, "We are back in the
house of our fathers, and we are here to
stay, thank God!"—a few of us are still
polishing and stammering, still wearing
the old "easy mark" game of doing all
the drudgery, with none of the cakes
and ale! Let's end this disgraceful
farce! We furnish, have long furnished,
the electoral votes, the powder and shot,
the munitions, of the Democratic party.
Let's assert those equal rights and privi-
leges as American citizens, as the re-
mainder of the nation fraternally bids
us to do. Let's cease the stultification
of informing the nation, by our actions,
that we cannot bring forth a man cap-
able for the presidency. For the sec-
tional cowardice, here and there man-
ifested, is equivalent to that shameful
and ungrounded admission.—*The Con-
stitution*, Atlanta, Ga., January 21, 1912.

Southern Leaders

"Naturally the men who have led the
Democrats in the House of Representa-
tives so successfully under trying con-
ditions are freely mentioned as the pre-
sent time as possible candidates for the
presidential nomination by the Demo-
cratic Convention. These leaders are
Champ Clark, Speaker of the House,
and Oscar W. Underwood, a new and
coming man.
"Both are Southerners, by the way, but
in my mind there is no reason in these
days of broadening views and lessening
prejudices why a Southerner should not
be nominated and elected to the presi-
dential chair of the United States. In
fact, there are many reasons why it
should be so.—London cable of William
Randolph Hearst, in the *New York
American*, Monday, September 25, 1911.

Takes Up Underwood

The years since the Civil War have
rolled too fast and far to permit it to
be conceivable any longer that the cir-
cumstances of Southern birth should
constitute in Northern judgment a dis-
qualification in any degree whatever.
Both as to nomination and as to elec-
tion the Southerner will be rated in 1912
on his individual merits. As far as this
particular Southerner, Mr. Oscar W.
Underwood, is concerned, it is agreeable
to note the absence of geography in
the regard in which he is held in all
parts of the Union.—*New York Sun*,
1911.

A FALSE POSITION

Rumors generally believed to have
emanated from the camps of men who
either are or have been considered as
Democratic presidential possibilities, that
Mr. Underwood, of Alabama, could not
command the support of the North be-
cause of the fact that he is a South-
erner, are not only poppycock, pure and
simple, but they place the men of the
North in a false position in the eyes
of the people of the South and tend to
revive sectional feeling which has been
buried for many years. The effects of
such rumors are nil in the North be-
cause the people of the North know they
have not one iota of truth, but people
in the South are apt to take them too
seriously, and there is where they may
prove harmful, not only because of their
tendency to cause dissatisfaction on the
part of Southern Democrats, but be-
cause of the effect they may have in
giving rise to sectional prejudice through
false representations of conditions which
do not exist. No Northerner would
hesitate to support Mr. Underwood be-
cause he comes from the South.—*The
Argus*, Albany, New York, November
23, 1911.

UNDERWOOD A UNIFYING FORCE

The Republicans cannot agree with
his tariff views; the country, we are
sure, will never put him into the presi-
dency, but assuredly he must be con-
ceded to be the ablest, the strongest,
the most influential Democrat in Congress
to-day, and he has shown a marvelous
capacity for leadership. His party asso-
ciates stand solidly behind him, and that
could not have been said of any other
man in recent years who led the Demo-
crats in the House of Representatives.

FORAKER ON UNDERWOOD

Mr. John Temple Graves will be in
town soon to make us a speech. He was
in Birmingham the other night and
The Age-Herald printed an interview
with the former Georgian, in which that
gentleman discussed Mr. Underwood as
a presidential candidate. Mr. Graves
said: "Mr. Foraker used to be very bit-
terly opposed to the South, but softened
a great deal after his elevation to the
Senate. I asked Mr. Foraker if in case
Mr. Underwood is nominated for Presi-
dent, will it make any difference to you
that he is a Southern man?"
"Absolutely none," said Mr. Foraker.
"Of course, I cannot vote for him, as I
am a Republican, but if any Republican
should get up and denounce him because
he is from the South, I would take the
stump in Underwood's defense."
"That reads well, coming as it does
from a man whose antagonistic attitude
towards the South in other days gave
him the appellation of 'Fire Alarm'

UNDERWOOD THE MAN

We have been humbugged and scared
off long enough by the boggy of North-
ern prejudice against a Southern candi-
date. Underwood stands for just those
things which recent Northern majori-
ties have declared they want—a re-
vision of the tariff downward and the
destruction of special privilege. His
qualities of leadership have been tested
and approved. In his personality he
is solid, clean and sane, with the cour-
age of a fighter and the clairvoyance of
a true reformer, and if the South pre-
sents him as her candidate and the party
ratifies her choice this fine, strong char-
acter of a new day in our annals will
catch both the sentiment and the sober
judgment of the North, sweep away the
last remaining debris of the dead old
war and its dead issues, and carry
enough States in that section to give

FREE LIST BILL VETOED BY PRESIDENT TAFT

DRAWN BY CHAIRMAN UNDERWOOD OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A Bill of Direct Benefit to the Farmer, Whose Hopes Were Dissipated by a Repub- lican President

MR. UNDERWOOD THE FRIEND OF ALL CLASSES

MR. UNDERWOOD, FROM THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND
MEANS, SUBMITTED THE FOLLOWING REPORT (EXTRACTS).

[To accompany H. R. 4413.]

The Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4413) to place on the free list agricultural implements, cotton bagging, cotton ties, leather, boots and shoes, saddlery and harness, fence wire, meats, cereals, flour, bread, timber, lumber, sewing machines, salt, and other articles, having had same under consideration report it back to the House without amend-
ment and recommend that the bill do pass.
It was expressly stated in the Democratic platform of 1908 that the belated
promises of tariff reform made at that time by the Republican Party were a
tardy recognition of the righteousness of the Democratic position on this ques-
tion, but that the people could not safely intrust the execution of this im-
portant work to a party which is so deeply obligated to the highly protected
interests as is the Republican Party.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

By this measure agricultural tools and implements of every kind are placed
on the free list, in order to remove or to prevent any possible discrimination
against our farmers in the prices of these necessary articles, and to place them
on an equal footing with their competitors elsewhere in the world. Our dom-
estic manufacturers of agricultural tools, implements, vehicles, and machin-
ery have grown to great proportions and are largely organized into great trusts
and combinations. These organizations are selling their products all over the
world, meeting and overcoming all competition. They need no protection,
and, as a rule, ask for none. For a number of years they sold many of
their products in foreign countries at lower prices than at home, and
so recently as 1907 agricultural associations in public resolutions protested
against this practice. The imports of these agricultural implements are in-
to \$122,302. The exports of these implements have become a matter of im-
portance than the domestic trade, the figures indicating an increase from
\$3,859,184 in 1890 to \$28,124,033 in 1910. This foreign business will be greatly
aided by the removal of duties from lumber, as provided for in this bill.

BAGGING AND BALING MATERIALS.

It is of the greatest importance to our producers of cotton and other agri-
cultural commodities that the materials necessary for bagging, sacking, baling,
or otherwise packing these commodities be made free from duty, so that they
may be available to the producers at the most favorable prices possible, with-
out shelter for the exaction of unreasonable prices by trusts and combina-
tions of manufacturing interests. The bill, therefore, places all such materials and
articles on the free list, including cotton bagging and cotton ties, jute and jute
butts, hemp, flax, seg, tow, burlaps, and other materials or fibers suitable for
coverings, and bags or sacks made therefrom, together with all hoop or band
iron or hoop or band steel for baling any commodity and wire for baling
agricultural products. All these coverings and materials for making coverings
are essentials in the transportation of agricultural products to their markets.
The products can not receive the benefit of any protection in these markets,
and for this and other reasons it is unfair and unjust to continue duties on
farmers and have served principally to increase the profits of exacting trusts
and combinations.

62d Congress, 1st Session, H. R. 4413. An Act to place on the free list agricultural implements, cotton bagging, cotton ties, leather, boots and shoes, fence wire, meats, cereals, flour, bread, timber, lumber, sewing machines, salt, and other articles.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That on and after the day following
the passage of this Act the following articles shall be exempt from duty when
imported into the United States:

Blows, tooth and disk harrows, headers, harvesters, reapers, agricultural drills
and planters, mowers, horse-rakes, cultivators, threshing machines and cotton
gins, farm wagons and farm carts and all other agricultural implements of any
kind and description, whether specifically mentioned herein or not, whether
in whole or in parts, including repair parts.

Bagging for cotton, gunny cloth, and all similar fabrics, materials, or cover-
ings, suitable for covering and baling cotton, composed in whole or in part of
jute, jute butts, hemp, flax, seg, Russian seg, New Zealand tow, Norwegian
tow, aloe, mill waste, cotton tares, or any other materials or fibers suitable for
covering cotton; and burlaps and bags or sacks composed wholly or in part of
jute or burlaps or other material suitable for bagging or sacking agricultural
products.

Hoop or band iron, or hoop or band steel, cut to lengths, punched or not
punched, or wholly or partly manufactured into hoops or ties, coated or not
coated with paint or any other preparation, with or without buckles or fasten-
ings, for baling cotton or any other commodity; and wire for baling hay,
straw, and other agricultural products.

Grain, buff, split, rough and sole leather, band, bend, or belting leather, boots
and shoes made wholly or in chief value of leather made from cattle hides
and cattle skins of whatever weight, of cattle of the bovine species, including
calfkings; an harness, saddles, and saddlery, in sets or in parts, finished or
unfinished, composed wholly or in chief value of leather; and leather cut into
shoe uppers or vamps or other forms suitable for conversion into manufac-
tured articles.

Barbed fence wire, wire rods, wide strands or wire rope, wire woven or
manufactured for wire fencing, and other kinds of wire suitable for fencing,
including wire staples.

Beef, veal, mutton, lamb, pork, and meats of all kinds, fresh, salted, pickled,
dried, smoked, dressed or undressed, prepared or preserved in any manner;
bacon, hams, shoulders, lard, lard compounds and lard substitutes; and
sausage and sausage meats.

Buckwheat flour, corn meal, wheat flour and semolina, rye flour, bran,
middlings, and other offals of grain, oatmeal and rolled oats, and all prepared
cereal foods; and biscuits, bread, wafers, and similar articles not sweetened.

Timber, hewn, sided, or squared, round timber used for spars or in build-
ing wharves, shingles, laths, fencing posts, sawed boards, planks, deals, and
other lumber, rough or dressed, except boards, planks, deals, and other lum-
ber, of lignum-vitae, lancewood, ebony, box, granddilla, mahogany, rosewood,
satinwood, and all other cabinet woods.

Salt, whether in bulk or in bags, sacks, barrels, or other packages.
Passed the House of Representatives May 8, 1911.

Attest:
SOUTH TRIMBLE,
Clerk.

UNDERWOOD A UNIFYING FORCE

The Republicans cannot agree with
his tariff views; the country, we are
sure, will never put him into the presi-
dency, but assuredly he must be con-
ceded to be the ablest, the strongest,
the most influential Democrat in Congress
to-day, and he has shown a marvelous
capacity for leadership. His party asso-
ciates stand solidly behind him, and that
could not have been said of any other
man in recent years who led the Demo-
crats in the House of Representatives.

The shrewd Republican politicians
who predicted that the Democrats in
the House would be split into a dozen
bitterly fighting factions in less than a
month, are now amazed at Underwood's
success as a harmonizer and a unifi-
fying force. He has succeeded where
everybody else failed; it seems likely
that with the prestige of success he will
grow larger and more powerful as time
passes. We detest his political princi-
ples, but it would be folly to denounce
him.