

# MEN OF THE HOUR.



## For Vice-President.

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### Levi Parsons Morton,

OF NEW YORK, WHO HAS THE SECOND  
PLACE ON THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

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Levi Parsons Morton, of New York, the Republican candidate for Vice-President, is descended from George Morton, one of the Puritan fathers, who landed at Plymouth, New England, in 1623, and is a son of the late Rev. Daniel Morton. His birthplace was Shoreham, Vermont, where he first saw the light on May 16, 1824. Having a strong preference for a business career, when sixteen years of age he was placed in a country store. By the time he attained his majority he was made a partner by his employer. In 1849 he removed to Boston, where he was admitted as a partner in a wealthy mercantile firm, good fortune due to his ability alone, as he had neither adequate capital nor

influential friends to gain him the promotion. Five years after he made New York his residence, and opened a place of business in that city. In 1863 Mr. Morton established himself in business as a banker, and in 1868 he was joined by George Bliss, the firm becoming Morton, Bliss & Co., under which name it has ever since wielded a great financial power. About the same time that Mr. Bliss joined the firm a partnership was established in London with Sir John Rose, and a branch house was founded under the firm name of Morton, Rose & Co. Mr. Morton is a rich man, and liberal in the political use of money.

His first appearance in political life was in 1876, when he was nominated for Congress. He was defeated, but he reduced the Democratic majority. In 1878 he was renominated, and this time he was elected. His Congressional career was a brief one, as in 1881 President Garfield nominated him as Minister to France, and as he was promptly confirmed by the Senate he resigned his seat in the House to accept this mission. In May of the same year he was also appointed Honorary Commissioner-General to the Paris International Exhibition of Electricity, and Dartmouth College gave him the honorary degree of LL. D. As Minister to France during the last Republican administration Mr. Morton's services were principally devoted to influencing the Chamber of Deputies to modify the harsh restrictive legislation regarding the importation of American pork and other commodities, a work in which he was measurably successful.

Upon his return from France in 1885 Mr. Morton was a leading candidate for the United States Senate, but after a long struggle in the Legislature William M. Evarts secured the prize. In 1887 he was a second time one of the leading candidates for United States Senator, and was again defeated.

Mr. Morton is a man of fine personal presence, tall and well built. He is a very companionable, amiable and liberal man. In 1879, when the Constellation was sent to Ireland with relief for the sufferers by the great famine, Mr. Morton paid for one-quarter of her cargo.

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Pictorial Associated Press, N. Y.