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TWO CENTS.

Big Delegation of Germans.

A committee representing the Eighteenth National Saengerfest Association arrived from Philadelphia in a special car at 11 o'clock this morning, and went from the railway station to the residence of Vice President Hobart, who delayed going to the Capitol to meet the delegation.

The delegation consisted of Representatives A. C. Harmer, R. Adams and J. R. Young of Pennsylvania, ex-Representative Theodore Halterman of Pennsylvania, Mayor Charles F. Warwick of Philadelphia, Simon Wolf of Washington, Arno Leonhardt, president of United Singers of Philadelphia, and president of the executive committee of the Saengerfest, and the following from Philadelphia: Edmund Wolsieffer, Carl Kuhl, F. Claudy, G. Stahl, Henry Lierz, F. Muench, F. Schlaich, F. W. Federschmidt, F. Lindhorst, L. Goos, G. Sinner, G. Schumacher, E. W. Siegmann, W. H. Kunzig, William Lentz, E. R. Teubner, F. Michelbach, Max Kaufmann and Otto Wrangel.

The vice president met the committee in the parlor of his residence and was introduced to each member by Representative Adams, who first presented President Arno Leonhardt. Mr. Leonhardt remarked that "inasmuch as Philadelphia was arranging the greatest Saengerfest that has ever been held in this country, and for which purpose the United Singers of Philadelphia had erected the largest concert hall on this continent, they felt that the arrangements would not be completed without the presence of the President and Vice President of this great country."

With this, Secretary Carl Ruhl of the National Saengerbund handed Mr. Hobart the engrossed invitation, which is bound in blue satin, containing on the face the inscription "National Saengerfest, Philadelphia, June 21-26, 1897."

Mr. Hobart replied, thanking the committee for their kind consideration, and added that if the Senate had by that time passed the tariff bill, so that his official duties would permit, he would positively attend, as he was desirous of hearing the mammoth chorus which will sing on that occasion.

Mayor Charles F. Warwick of Philadelphia entered the parlor just as the Vice President was closing his remarks, and Mayor Warwick impressed upon the Vice President the magnitude of the coming festival, and assured him of the hospitality of the Quaker city, and promised him police protection while in Philadelphia, which remark caused the Vice President to laugh heartily.

After extending an invitation officially to Mr. Hobart to attend the eighteenth national Saengerfest, to be held in Philadelphia the week of June 21-26, the party went to the White House, where the President met them by appointment.

At the White House the party was ushered into the cabinet room, where the President greeted Representative Adams cordially and bade the delegation welcome.

Mayor Warwick was then introduced. He said that they would be highly honored by the President's presence at the greatest of all Saengerfests held on this continent.

President Arno Leonhardt of the National Saengerfest, after being introduced to the President, said that the army of singers would prize above all if they could sing to the President of the United States, to which Mr. McKinley replied that "he felt both honored and flattered by the invitation, and that if his official duties

would permit he would only too gladly attend." He further said that he would receive the invitation with thanks, and reply thereto at some day in the near future.

Mr. Simon Wolf added his urgent request that the invitation be accepted, as he assured President McKinley that among his multitude of admirers there were not any more loyal than the German-Americans.

Again the President assured the party that he would be delighted to attend if he could arrange it, to which Commissioner of Patents Butterworth added his urgent request that the invitation be accepted.