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THE COLUMBIAN,
Bloomsburg, Pa.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1892.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

FOR PRESIDENT
GROVER CLEVELAND,
of New York.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT
ADLAI E. STEVENSON,
of Illinois.

STATE.

FOR CONGRESSMAN AT LARGE,
GEORGE A. ALLEN, Erie.
THOMAS B. MERRITT, Berks.

FOR SUPREME JUDGE,
CHRISTOPHER HEYDRICK, Venango.

FOR DISTRICT ELECTORS.
Samuel G. Thompson, Cleon R. Walenwright,
Adam S. Conaway, Charles H. Laferoy,
W. Redwood Wright, George R. Guss,
John O. James, William Melan,
James Duffey, Charles D. Brock,
S. W. Trimmer, Samuel S. Letby,
Azur Lathrop, T. C. Hipple,
Thomas Chalfant, W. D. Himmelreich,
P. H. Strubinger, H. B. Piper,
Joseph D. Orr, Charles A. Fagan,
Andrew A. Payton, John D. Braden,
Michael Leibel, Thomas McDowell,
Cornelius W. Bull, Wm. G. Yuengling,
J. K. P. Hall, John Conway.

COUNTY.

FOR CONGRESS,
S. P. WOLVERTON,
FOR REPRESENTATIVES,
E. M. FEWKSBURO,
ANDREW L. FRITZ.

VOTE EARLY.

Every Democrat in Columbia county should arrange their work so that they can go to the polls to vote before dinner time. Under the new ballot law much time will be taken in the preparation for voting and every Democrat should work to get every vote polled. Vote early and then help get out the rest of the votes.

The Baker Ballot Law is to be tested in the Supreme Court. On Wednesday a bill was filed at Pittsburgh against the county of Allegheny and the board of commissioners, asking that an injunction be issued, restraining them from further advertising of or procuring or distributing any ballots of the description indicated for use at the said election or for any purpose. The bill sets forth that the law is in violation of the 6th Sec. of the Act of General Assembly, approved July 2, 1839 (P. L. 519), and of the Act of March 30, 1866 (P. L. 92). The court took the bill, and after a consultation will announce what the future action will be.

THE OUTLOOK.

Election day will be two weeks from next Tuesday (November 8th). Thus far the campaign has been the most quiet one ever known. But when it comes to registration, there appears to be about as much interest manifested as ever known. To use a common phrase, the politicians "are not in it." The people have determined to assert their rights. They have been duped long enough; having borne the burdens they now propose by the ballot to take part in the making of laws for their government. The tide is steadily drifting toward the election of Grover Cleveland. From the present outlook Cleveland will surely carry New York and Indiana together with the states which voted for him in 1888; and the prospect is brightening in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The fusion ticket will likely succeed in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Nevada—which would reduce the Harrison electors 25. Neither candidate can be elected without the vote of New York; the state votes under the Australian ballot and in 1891 the Democrats elected Gov. Flower by a majority of 48,000. The Democratic managers claim that Cleveland will carry New York state by a majority of nearly 50,000.

It's not very pleasant to cough and hack. To suffer pain in chest and back. Many people could stop it, for sure. By simply using One Minute Cough Cure. W. S. Rishton, Druggist.
10-14-197

THE FORCE BILL.

MR. BUCKALEW TO THE VOTERS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY, IN EXPLANATION OF THE BILL.

A BAD MEASURE EXPOSED.

As a party bill it was as admirable in construction as in purpose, the whole fifty-seven elaborate sections aiming directly at the object in view—the obtaining and holding control of the representative branch of Congress by a political party. Some persons having a strange affection for this bill have objected to its being called a "force bill," and I agree with them in their criticism upon the name; the bill contains more fraud than force, although compulsion to enforce its most objectionable provisions is a distinguishing feature.

By the bill a manager of elections of representatives, called a chief supervisor is to be appointed in each of the several judicial districts of the United States by a judge of the circuit court, who is confined, however, in his selection to a commissioner of the court—a scheme of selection which would result, at present, in the appointment of Republicans (almost exclusively) as chief supervisors; and the law is to be put in force in any Congressional district upon the petition of fifty electors in a country district or of one hundred in a city district; then for each election-precinct, or polling-place, in the Congressional district three supervisors of election are to be appointed—one, at least, to be of a different party from the other two; but who need not be residents of the election-precinct, residence anywhere in the Congressional district being sufficient.

In order to their appointment, the chief supervisor of elections (the "election boss" as he may be called) makes out a list of persons in the Congressional district, double in number to the number to be assigned to actual service, and this list is to be submitted to a circuit court judge of the judicial district for formal appointments; the judge can select no one, but acts only on names furnished him by the election boss; then the boss picks out men from the list and assigns them to duty in particular precincts and these precinct-supervisors supervise registration and attend at the holding of elections, when they may challenge voters, assist in counting votes, keep tallies, receive votes rejected by the state officers of election, and make returns of the election to their chief together with statements in writing concerning the election and the registration of votes; and they are made expressly subject to the direction and orders of the election boss in the performance of their duties.

In cities the election boss and U. S. Marshall of the district are to confer together and agree upon the number of deputy marshals to be appointed for election purposes, but one-third of the deputy marshals appointed are to be named by the election boss, under whose direction the precinct supervisors and deputy marshals are to canvass the precinct districts from house to house, obtaining full lists of names of voters with their nationality, character of citizenship and other particulars; and returns are to be made of the canvassing a sufficient time before the election to enable their chief to understand the political situation everywhere and to give proper orders.

From the returns and statements made to him after the election the election boss makes out returns for the several Congressional districts within his jurisdiction which are to be laid before a United States returning board for the state, to consist of three persons appointed by the proper circuit court judge; which board, upon the returns and statements furnished it by the election bosses, makes return for the state; each member of the board to receive fifteen dollars per day as his pay with an additional allowance of five dollars per day for expenses; while the pay of precinct supervisors is five dollars per day for six days in any congressional district where there is registration of voters, and for twelve days in cities where there is house-to-house canvassing.

The election board returns are to be transmitted to the clerk of the House of Representatives at Washington (the old clerk of the House always holding over until a new congress is organized) by whom the names of the members so returned are to be placed upon the roll of members of the new House, under penalty in case of failure of heavy fine and imprisonment. The returns made by governors of state, in accordance with the reports of state officers of election, are to be wholly disregarded. It will be seen that the chief supervisors of election, called by us election bosses, stand at the center of this novel scheme and substantially control it throughout. All precinct supervisors are selected by them and are subject to their direction; deputy marshals are in part selected by them, also, the canvassing of districts is according to their orders; the written statement they require and obtain from their appointees become official papers the returning board is confined to the returns and papers furnished by them, and has no power to investigate any election question, except to correct

clerical errors and to demand explanations of contradictions appearing on the face of returns furnished to it; and the final result is that the returns of the election bosses, reaching the clerk of the House, become the binding law of membership in the new House until contested elections (if such there be) shall be determined by the House.

With the example before us of the fifty-first Congress, in deciding election cases, we may fairly assume that no political majority once seated in the House by the returns of the election bosses will every be overturned by contests.

The Force Bill would be enormously expensive. There are sixty thousand election districts or precincts in the United States, five thousand or one-twelfth of the whole number in Pennsylvania, and with three supervisors to each precinct we get a total of one hundred and eighty thousand, including fifteen thousand for our own State, or an average of five hundred for each of our congressional district. Assuming an average of eight or nine days for the supervisors at five dollars a day, we get an outlay of seven or eight millions of dollars for supervisors alone at one election. It is impossible to compute the cost of deputy marshals, there being no limit upon the number to be agreed upon between the election boss and the marshal in any case, the old limit made by law upon the number that may be employed being swept away by the bill; but a low estimate would be two and a half or three millions, add further the fees allowed to election bosses, with heavy printing expenses for election blanks and circulars and the pay and expenses of United States boards, and we reach a grand total of ten millions or more.

This estimate is based upon the application of the scheme to the whole country including the territories, and that it would be so applied is plain upon the face of the bill; for a single person desiring a five dollar a day appointment under it, can easily and quickly obtain the fifty or one hundred names required to put it in force in his district; in short, the patronage provided by the bill will carry it into sure and universal execution. In fact, contrary to the impression of some persons, the bill is mainly intended for the North and West, and not for the South alone.

By one of the provisions of the bill the existing plan for selecting jurors in the United States court was abolished and a new one in harmony with the bill and intended to facilitate its purpose was substituted. The law once was that jurors for the United States courts were selected by the marshals of the several districts; but some years ago the law was changed, to avoid partisanship in their selection, and it was provided that they should be selected for each court by the clerk of the court jointly with a commissioner appointed by the court, who was in every case to be a member of a different political party from that of the clerk—in this respect assimilating practice in the United States courts with practice in the State courts, as established by the State law. This wise and just provision, not being in harmony with the Force Bill, was changed thereby so as to confine the whole power of selecting jurors to the clerk alone.

As nearly all the clerks are of the party of Mr. Reed and Mr. Lodge, it follows that the election bosses and all their subordinates would be protected by friendly juries against prosecutions for misconduct in the exercise or abuse of their power. Being United States officers, they could not be prosecuted in the State courts for official misdemeanors; and in the federal courts they would have packed juries provided for their protection. They may carry a high hand trample on State laws, outrage justice and decency; and by all the means which ingenuity and rascality can resort to secure the seating of a majority of their political friends in Congress, with a fair prospect of escaping all punishment for their offenses.

It is to be observed also, that, although this change is proposed to accommodate the Force Bill, it extends to all jury trials of every description in the United States courts. Mr. Lodge's effect for his bill would doubtless increase by the admirable plan contained in it for canvassing cities in the interest of a party by the election supervisors and deputy marshals; all desirable information concerning every voter in a precinct would be obtained by the house-to-house canvass, directed by their chief, the election boss, to whom their returns are to be made. The burden of this expensive work preparatory to election, now borne by political parties, would be in part transferred to the United States treasury; the party to which the election boss belonged would have its canvassing done at the public's expense—an expense amounting to millions of dollars, as already shown—while any opposing party would be left subject to the burden.

The complication, confusion and conflict of authority at elections, resulting from the dual system of holding them, will occur to any reflecting mind; but their contemplation did not disturb the equanimity of the authors and

supporters of the bill, for the more of confusion and dispute resulting from its operation the more of party returns with consequent control in the organization of the House would be secured.

Some unsuspecting persons may think that the regulation requiring one of the precinct supervisors in each case to be of a different political party from the others is a security for fairness at the election; this would be so if the selection of the third supervisor were made by his own party, as is done in Pennsylvania in the choice of inspectors of election; but the election boss, under the bill, selects all the names upon the double list approved by the court, assigns to duty from that list the persons who are to serve, has the power to remove them at his pleasure and to give them orders which they are to obey, they will get their appointments from him upon the express or implied condition that they are to do his will and be subservient to all his wishes. They will be men of no account or of easy virtue, who will constitute no obstacle in his way, and very commonly will be seduced into betrayal of their own party.

In our state election boards are well organized; all those engaged in holding them are selected upon a plan sanctioned by experience and approved by popular favor. A majority in a district elect the judge, and each party by its own votes, elect an inspector and then each inspector selects one clerk, so that in nearly all the election districts in Pennsylvania the election officers are divided between parties in the proportion of three to two, and then by our constitution of 1874, whenever fraud or unfairness is suspected, as likely to occur in a district, five voters of the district may apply to the county courts to appoint two overseers of election from different political parties who when they agree, may decide any question of difference in a board. Besides, the attendance of constables in country districts and of policemen in cities is a guarantee of peace and good order at the election. We need no United States supervisors inside the election room, nor deputy marshals outside for any legitimate purpose, and their employment can only be productive of evil.

Under the Force bill the secrecy of the ballot would be no longer secure. The state election officers are sworn not to divulge how any elector has voted; but no such obligation is to be assumed by the United States supervisors. They are to take a list of all the voters and by handling, examining and counting the numbered ballots, may ascertain how any elector has voted and may afterwards divulge their information with impunity. This fact would result in coercion upon voters in the election where supervisors are employed and would destroy or impair the secrecy of the ballot.

The Nation is Democratic.

Since the Grant sweep over Greeley in 1872, just a score of years ago, the Democrats have polled a majority of the popular vote of the nation in every Presidential contest, with the single exception of 1880, when Garfield received 3,033 majority over Hancock in a poll of nearly 9,000,000 votes. The following is the official popular vote for President since 1872, as given in the Tribune Almanac:

1876	Democratic.....4,284,265 Republican.....3,057,235	1884	Democratic.....4,874,980 Republican.....4,851,981
1880	Dem. maj.....350,970	1888	Dem. maj.....25,000
1884	Republican.....4,690,921 Democratic.....4,447,888	1892	Democratic.....5,536,594 Republican.....5,441,923

It will be seen that Tilden had 250,970 majority over Hayes in 1876; that Garfield had 3,033 majority over Hancock in 1880; that Cleveland had 23,005 majority over Blaine in 1884, and that Cleveland had 94,601 majority over Harrison in 1888.

Since 1872 the Republicans have elected a majority to the popular branch of Congress only twice—to the Forty-seventh and to the Fifty-first Congresses. Thus in three of the last four Presidential contests the Democrats polled a majority of the popular vote of the nation as against the Republicans, and of the last nine Congresses the Democrats had a majority and chose the Speaker in seven and the Republicans in two. The Republican Speakers were Messrs. Keifer in 1881 and Reed in 1889. The Democratic Speakers were Messrs. Kerr, in 1875; Randall, in 1876-7-9; Carlisle, in 1883-5-7, and Crisp, in 1891.

In 1890, the important Congressional election following the last Presidential contest, the Republicans were defeated by the largest majority ever cast against any party in the history of the Republic. They elected less than one-third of the popular branch of Congress, and the off-year elections of 1891 gave New York a Democratic Governor by nearly 50,000; Massachusetts a Democratic Governor by 7,000 and Iowa a Democratic Governor by 7,500, while the other formerly strong Republican States of the West and Northwest which held elections last year, prove in every instance that they are no longer reliably Republican.

But for the manufacture of six new pocket States, both branches of Congress would to day be Democratic, and nearly two-thirds of the States would have Democratic Governors. As it is, with six Republican Governors

added by the pocket States, the Democrats have 24 Governors and the Republicans 20, two of which were stolen in New Hampshire and Connecticut. Another was stolen in Nebraska, but the Supreme Court halted the thief by restoring to office the Governor the people had elected.

Thus the Republicans have been the minority party in the nation in three of the last four Presidential contests, and in seven of the nine last Congresses; and the election of last year which gave success to the entire Democratic tickets in New York and Iowa and to a Democratic Governor in Massachusetts, clearly indicated a large Democratic majority in 1892 unless there has been a revulsion in public sentiment against that party.

The Republicans entered the great battle of 1892 as a defeated party—defeated in three of the last four Presidential elections, defeated in the last two national contests, and defeated by yet larger majorities in the elections of 1890 and 1891. Its only hope of success is in revolutionizing New York that gave nearly 50,000 last year, and that has given uniform and generally large Democratic majorities during the last four years, with the single exception of President in 1888 when the whole Democratic State ticket was elected. It starts in the fight a beaten party, and how is it to reverse the two overwhelming judgments of the people already given against its wantonly oppressive and monopoly protecting tariff policy? The nation is Democratic.—Times.

What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and then has the dyspepsia so bad that he can't enjoy any of the good things it contains? He won't have dyspepsia if he takes Dr. Witt's Little Early Risers. W. S. Rishton, Druggist.

No Meals for Election Offices Until the Result is Obtained.

It is said that in some of the polling places it may take upward of twenty-four hours to officially count the ballots deposited under the Baker law. Some commissioners rather rashly estimate that it may take nearly three days and that each of the election officers in the state will likely be entitled to three days' pay for their services. The amount of work required to be gone through with, it is claimed, make the labor of getting out the official count not only burdensome, but will delay the announcement of the final result in large districts when there is considerable cutting from five to seven hours after the polls have closed on election day.

Section 29 of the law, it is held, precludes the possibility of the election officers getting anything to eat from the time the polls close until the votes are counted. That may tend to hasten the work some, as under the old system the election officers frequently spent an hour eating supper before they began counting. Now they "must at once proceed to count the votes" after the polls close and no one is "allowed to communicate with any officer in any way after the polls are closed." That part of the section prevents meals being served to the election officers before finishing the count.

A gentleman of this county who has excellent judgment remarked to us the other day that he knew of no pill so good for constipation, dyspepsia and liver complaint as Dr. Witt's Little Early Risers. W. S. Rishton, Druggist.



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