THE CAMPAIGN.

Governor Geary at Troy, Pa.—A Brilliant Reception—An Eloquent Speech.

(Special Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.)

TROY, Bradford county, Sept. 4, 1869.—Governor Geary to-day opened the canvass on the part of the Republicans in Pennsylvania at this place, by regular appointment. These arrived on the same train with him this morning—the Hon. John Scott, United States Senator from Pennsylvania, and the Hon. William D. Kelley, of Philadelphia. Hon. Galusha A. Grow arrived afterwards.

Eleven o'clock found this bright little town in quite a commotion. A large contribution of citizens, accompanied by the Troy Band, escorted the Governor and his party to the residence of D. F. Pomeroy, Esq., who hospitably entertained them during their stay in Troy.

At two o'clock in the afternoon the meeting was called to order in the square, the locality of the burnt district, now happily rebuilt with substantial brick structures. Some four or five thousand of the sturdy sons of Bradford, many of whom had come in from the surrounding hills and valleys of this hardy North, were present, and the Troy Band gave the aid of their excellent music to enliven the scene.

B. M. Long, Esq., presided, aided by a long list of Vice Presidents.

Governor Geary was particularly happy in his address to-day, being the first to be introduced. He was greeted with rounds upon rounds of cheers from the assembled multitude, who listened with the most attentive ears, interrupted only by the most enthusiastic cheers, which betokened a great interest in the issues of the day and a universal desire to hear this first authorized keynote of the campaign in Pennsylvania.

The Governor said:

Fellow-Citizens, Ladies and Gentlemen: It is the first time that I have ever had the pleasure of meeting an audience of my fellow-citizens in the county of Bradford; and I feel no ordinary pleasure, indeed, on this occasion, to be permitted to exchange salutations with you, and to extend to you my most hearty congratulations upon the general condition of our country, of our State and of our people. I am aware that even in the history of this State has there been greater prosperity, either for individuals or for the Commonwealth at large, than is now manifested in the State of Pennsylvania. I hear no complaints in the throughout the length and breadth of the State indicated a more glorious harvest; never for years have the people been better than now, while all our granaries are overloaded. As with Pennsylvania, so with the entire Union. There never was a more fitting period in our history to render thanks to God for His bounty than now.

The Governor then in rapid succession brought to the view of his hearers the facts that our prosperity as a State extended as well to our finances and our commercial relations, that our debt was being rapidly reduced, and our network of industries and labors widely extended, apply illustrating his points as he went along. The war had thrust upon us questions which had to all appearances been settled. There was a party which had been opposed to this great Union, and it was well to inquire what that party was and what has been doing since 1861, when this country was plunged into one of the most direful wars ever waged on the face of the earth. That war, it must be remembered, was brought on by people of the South who called themselves Democrats. Then that party is responsible for the difficulties which culminated in the thunder of artillery and the clash of arms on many a battle-field of the rebellion, from which we are just even now emerging. That war robbed us of fathers, brothers, husbands and sons, and poured countless tears to flow throughout the length and breadth of this land. Some households lost one, two, three and four of their members—and all, indeed, five—as a sacrifice for the national life. All this it cost us because, in the choice of a Chief Magistrate of the Union, that people refused to be governed by the majority, and attempted insolently to withdraw from the Government by secession. And in that they were encouraged by the then Chief Magistrate of the nation. When James Buchanan declared that there was no power to coerce secession, either in him as the executive, or in Congress as the law-making power, rebellion, which was then no larger than a man's hand in the wide horizon, might have been quenched by a single word from him; but the encouragement gave traitors such an impulse as brought on the darkest war-cloud that ever settled over our country. He acted as a man and as an intelligent patriot, firm in what he did, this Government would certainly not have been thrown into a bitter five-years'—war—I ask you, then, as Pennsylvanians (the Governor addressed a large part of the cause which brought these dire calamities upon us, and you must, therefore, fail to trace them to the party which is still opposing us in the name of Democracy. They are clearly responsible for all the terrible woes we have suffered since 1861. We all know how they rebelled in our ranks, of our forts, of our ships, and how they trampled, and spurned our flag under foot. What else, then, had we to do but rally in defence of all our fathers had left us? Then, after oceans of blood had been spilled and countless thousands of money spent, we gained the victory. But the enemy is still on the march, and the battle still seems to hang over us, just as when they passed the lines of Maryland and Pennsylvania, on their road to the field of Gettysburg. Do you ask, Where is this covert enemy still upon the war-path? You may read of their whereabouts in all the districts of the South. You will remember that during the rebellion Monby served the devil in the place of Heaven. His followers as Boys in Blue gained by false pretence some cruel advantage over our brave soldiers. And this system of false pretence, instead now of being but an auxiliary to gratuitous rebellion, has come to be one of the main dependences of the enemy. We see men all over the Union ready to don their armor and fight as Republicans in the cause of our common foe. They come to the surface every day as Republicans—"Conservative Republicans"—which means nothing more nor less than the old Secession party of the South. And the miserable party of guerillas have actually taken up by proxy—at a disadvantage, too, in some instances—all because we have not been wakeful as freemen jealous of our liberties. We are too prone to sleep after a victory. They captured us in Virginia; and, what is still more and far worse, they, under the same miserable disguise, carried out the same grand frolic in Tennessee, to the endangering of the adoption of the fifteenth amendment.

They ask you in Pennsylvania that "there must be some change." A change, for better or worse, seems to be their rallying cry, as if there were magic in the words to draw the enthusiasm of the people. Their inclination "change," let me tell you, my friends, means an utter absence of protection for our manufactures and productions. They are, in fact, teaching the people free trade. They would ship your wool to Europe to be manufactured there with cheaper labor to save you the trouble here. They would shut up the iron mines, your workshops, your factories and your rolling-mills, and throw your teeming millions into agriculture. They would send not only your profits to foreign countries, but your labor also. Are we to be an agricultural nation alone? Are we to be the hewers of the gold-dug wood and the drawers of California water?

These men, the Governor contended, have another object in view—the repudiation of the debt of the country. They talk smartly of "bloated bondholders"—they who never gave a dollar of their money or cared a straw for our brave soldiers serving faithfully and suffering manfully in defence of our country and its heritance. They never gave a cent to the Christian and Sanitary Commissions to provide for the care of our sick and wounded and dying. They were now again running for the Governorship of Ohio, George H. Pendleton, the chief of avowed repudiation. Our debt had accrued in defence of the nation's life, and every cent of it must and shall be paid. (This elicited prolonged applause.) This was the only doctrine upon which we could possibly stand. Destroy the value of your bonds, and you take from every bank in the State and in the United States all the currency with which we are enabled to transact the business of the country, and every fire in our manufacturing establishments is instantly quenched.

These men mean more. They designs cover the assumption of the entire debt of the South. Then, we have now to contend with a party that is making a combined attack upon our outer works—first, by free trade; second, by repudiation, and thirdly, by the assumption of the whole rebel debt, repudiated in countless millions two or three times over, already.

What is repudiation? Jefferson Davis, not only the arch-secessionist and the arch-traitor, but also the arch-repudiator, carried repudiation to success in Mississippi—repudiation of a debt unjustly incurred in building railroads to protect the State from the devastations of the Father of Waters. Now they are broken down, and the credit of the State is forever distroyed. The State might be sweeping into the Gulf of Mexico and it could not collect one cent of credit.

The Governor then referred to the National debt, of which our opponents complain. What does it amount to? We have now in the organized States of the Union, real estate and personal and mixed property, more than forty thousand millions of capital, five per cent. of which would pay the entire debt of the Government; and if the payment were made now the people would not even feel the taxation. We would be worth more, because our property would be relieved of the tax now imposed. But if we should consent to repudiate our debts or our bonded obligations, we would not be worth a cent. The Government, at the present year was that under the administration of A. Johnson, we were fully $3,000,000,000 in debt—a less by days of the time when that gentleman left his high office for Tennessee (on the 28th of February, 1869). The Republicans, in electing Ulysses S. Grant, promised that they would pay this debt, and they had by this time given the best possible evidence of their ability to do so. What had they done, under Grant, during the six months just passed? Paid $46,000,000 on the debt, which showed that the whole debt might be paid in twenty-five years, calculating on $100,000,000 per annum, reducing the interest annually.

Referring to State politics, Governor Geary said:

In rendering an account of my stewardship I do not want to be regarded as egotistical. If you look back upon the history of Pennsylvania for thirty or forty years, you will find the Democrats had control of our finances during most of that time. I on will find that the debt, too, in 1848 was $41,000,000, accumulated by the mismanagement of the Democratic party. We are invited to examine our public improvements—the excuse for this enormous expenditure. They footed up $35,000,000. This was the legacy left us by long the party of Democratic Governors. Their policy seemed to be to pile up the debt upon the shoulders of the people so long as it could possibly be borne. When you elected my immediate predecessor you find that this debt was reduced from ten or twelve per annum. My predecessor, in his administration of the affairs of the State, wrote one hundred and forty-seven vetoes—two hundred per annum. Of my three years' administration thus far, I have vetoed—one hundred and sixty-nine; in 1868, sixty-nine; in 1869, seventy-nine—making in three years nearly two hundred and seventeen vetoes, in which I will venture to say almost every principle of the Democratic party has in some way been involved. Not one of these vetoes has ever been overridden by the Legislature.

We thus have an average of 72½ vetoes per annum, or more than one for every day of legislative session. Were I to do so, the Legislature, I fear, would form such a ring as would prevent any legislation from effecting a stopping any legislation they might choose to enact. I have gone just as far as any Governor ever dared go. No Governor has ever vetoed as many bills and stopped as much evil legislation, and I have the proud consciousness of knowing that not one of the bills I have vetoed ever passed the Legislature over my head.

Alluding to the subject of pardons, the Governor said that in the palmy days of Democracy they pardoned four or five hundred criminals in a single year. The whole number of pardons during his first year was 52; in 1868 the number was increased to 105, owing to the fact that he could not bear to see men fined $10 and costs $800 for enforcing a regularly framed statute preventing deserters from voting. During the current year the number has reached but 40—making a total of 198 during his term. Murder, perjury, arson, burglary, and their kindred crimes should never go unpunished under his administration.

The Governor continued in an elegant strain for over an hour and a half, every word making its full impression upon his auditors.

He was followed by United States Senator John Scott, amid applause, and then William D. Kelley also spoke, and Hon. Galusha A. Grow concluded the speaking.

J. S.

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