

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 10, 1898.

It is not a flattering tribute to the power of the press that the ostensibly powerful organs of public opinion in Philadelphia, which almost unanimously condemned Colonel Stone and advocated the defeat of the Republican state ticket, were unable to keep Stone's plurality below normal.

The Result in Lackawanna County.

Now that the complete returns of Tuesday's election are available for study there is additional reason for intelligent people to view the result with satisfaction. When we consider that, in addition to the peculiar mania incited by the erratic Dr. Swallow among impressionable elements in the local population, the fullest activity of the political agitator, of dis-appointed candidates for appointive office, of scolded rivals in business and mischief-loving incendiaries aiming to unsettle the very foundations of good government was directed against the head of the Republican ticket and against the re-election of an honest judge who could not be prostituted to malicious factional purposes, the triumph of fairness and honor becomes luminously significant.

In the campaign just closed anarchy and personal venom had full swing and by their very excesses they broke down at the crisis. The annals of politics contain no record of a greater virulence of personal attack and foul innuendo than was rampant among the elements in opposition to the recent Republican ticket. To the credit of the regular daily newspaper press of the county be it said, this nauseating license of vituperation found little exploitation in print with the exception of Con Smith's Sunday Sewer its contaminating communication was chiefly by word of mouth. Hired tongues carried the poison into mine and field and shop; knavish malcontents insinuated it in secret meetings, and members of scandal even piled their nefarious vociferation in the shadow of the sanctuary—but all in vain. The conspiracy of defamation weakened toward the last from the inhaled foulness of its own noxious creations, and the victory of decency was sweeping and emphatic.

There is no encouragement in the returns for a repetition of this kind of warfare. The contests of the future are bound to be conducted on a higher level. Public opinion can be divided by argument and reason, but there is no longer any prospect of success for the white caps of politics who practice character assassination under cover of darkness and make their appeal only to the vicious, the ignoble and the credulous.

What a good many Republicans evidently need is enough increased patriotism to outweigh disappointments concerning postoffices.

The Next Congress.

It is not to be believed that the closeness of the party alignment in the Fifty-sixth congress, possibly foreshadowing the election of a Democratic speaker, indicates popular dissatisfaction with the broad policies of the McKinley administration, although to uninformed foreign critics such might seem to be the proper inference. We in America know that opposition congresses are the natural result of a change in the political control of federal patronage; that the distribution of postmasterhips makes invariably ten venal enemies for one political friend; and that sharper than a serpent's tooth is the bite of a dis-appointed candidate for official spoils.

It was hoped that the special conditions of great national and international significance existing at this time would for once keep the people true to their better judgment. There cannot have been serious doubt among the great intelligent mass of people of the fact that a Democratic majority in the next congress would be a public misfortune. We say this without meaning any disrespect for the patriotism and the personal worth of individual members of that party; we say it because the simple fact is that the Democratic party has at this moment no adequate broad-gauged leaders in congress; because it is in an unsettled transition state as to its own attitude and convictions respecting the great issues newly developed by the war; because to put solemn and high responsibility affecting the whole future of the republic in hands like those which will yield its caucus whip, that do not know from day to day their own purposes or intent, is to make in effect a jest of deliberative government. The people must have known and felt the truth of what we say. The intelligent people certainly did. But the figures show that while some of them languidly voted for Republican congressmen they made no determined, vigorous fight to sustain the president and his administration; they sat still or went off on Swallow or Wanamaker tangents while the soreheads and disgruntled office seekers, the "ringsters, roosters and ruffians," to use the late Commodore Singletary's words, were working like Turks for private revenge, utterly indifferent to national interests or needs.

If it shall finally show that a Democratic congress has been elected, we must hope that it will turn out to be better than its leaders, better than its party creed and better than its party's past. At the same time the fact that at this critical period the good sense of the people should weaken and honest warnings fall on unresponsive ears is one which operates as a chill upon

that healthy optimism which is the normal American birthright.

Dr. Swallow will probably now suddenly remember that he has been neglecting the Prohibition business. At the last election it was the liquor men of Dauphin county who were his ardent supporters. Possibly his pre-ter-natural campaign silence on the subject of temperance reform may be traced to the fact that he still hoped to hold that element.

A Futile Threat.

Mr. Wanamaker's threat to continue the fight reads like a brave statement and doubtless is true so far as he personally is concerned. He is reported to have said on numerous occasions, both publicly and privately, that he "would never let up on Quay." Out of his million dollar annual income to spend one hundred or two hundred thousand dollars in the employment of tools like Van Valkenburg to work on the politically discontented and stir up mischief would be in the nature of a diversion for the merchant prince.

But it is one thing to sow and another to reap. The sentiment of popular dissatisfaction with objectionable methods within the Republican party is widespread and profound; and if the new state administration shall be as politic as we know it will be honest in intent, it will assert its influence aggressively for economy, fair dealing and reform. But the sentiment has no use for men who try to harness it to the gratification of their personal spite. It distinguishes with accuracy between the true and the false. It has sized John Wanamaker up as shoddy and it will never listen to him again.

The interesting discovery has been made that under the Crawford county rules now in force in this city and county no honest Republican can participate in the next party primaries who voted for Swallow or otherwise split his ticket. Will this rule be enforced?

America Influencing Europe.

The course of four of the most prominent nations of Europe at this moment shows in a striking way the great influence which the United States is beginning to exert in the politics of the Old World. Until a few weeks ago England's course in Asiatic and African affairs aroused great dissatisfaction among her citizens, but all this has been changed. Some of the leading British papers asserted that their government was being deluded and beaten by France, Germany and Russia, in the contest which was being waged by them for territorial aggrandizement in China. Marching the march across the Nile region was interpreted by English newspapers as not only an indication that France desired to appropriate a large part of Egypt, but as an evidence that she would get it. Liberal journals charged Premier Salisbury with weakness. The Tory press made apologies for him, and attributed his laxness to ill-health. But both accusations and apologies have ceased. The England of Salisbury has begun to show some of the vigor she displayed under the elder Pitt. The change in England's course is one of the surprises of the Old World's politics. It all has come since the war of the United States with Spain, the strength which the United States showed in that conflict, and the evidences of friendship by this country for England displayed during that struggle and since.

It was noticed and commented upon by the British papers that the only foreign diplomat present at the banquet just given in England to General Kitchener was the United States representative. "In thus associating our American kinsfolk with our national rejoicings," says the London Times, "we desire to show the warm appreciation of the sympathy with which General Kitchener's victory has been commended upon beyond the Atlantic." It is this American sympathy, frequently and conspicuously displayed of late, which has nerved England to turn upon her enemies. America's moral aid would be extended to England in any conflict between that country and the nations of continental Europe. Every nation in the Old World knows this, and has commented upon it. America's influence in this way is decisive, though not a shot need be fired by an American vessel or soldier. The fact that the United States would be unfriendly to any combination formed against England, so long as England, as now, is fighting the battles of civilization, has a deterrent effect upon continental Europe which turns the scale in favor of England. Thus we see England preparing herself at this moment to strike France in Africa and France's ally, Russia, in Asia, if provocation is furnished. As a consequence France is evacuating Fashoda and Russia's activity in Chinese affairs has suddenly ceased.

This evidence of the decisive character of United States influence in Old World affairs will give timeliness and point to a prediction made more than a century ago by a conspicuous Englishman. "North America is become a new primary planet in the system of the world, while it takes its own course, must have its effect upon the orbit of every other planet, and shift the common center of gravity." The author of these words was Thomas Pownall, formerly a British governor in the colonies, and then a member of the House of Commons. The words were uttered in 1780, and, a little over a century afterward, they have become literally true. The United States, as Pownall said, has become a new primary planet in the system of the world, and it has moved the common center of gravity of the universe. Its voice will have a commanding potency hereafter in the councils of the nations, and it will be directed in the interest of civilization. Only one of the great countries of the Old World is in harmony with its methods and aspirations, and its moral aid for that country in this crisis gives the latter a courage and a potency which enable her to hold the primacy in European affairs. Through England, as against the continental European nations, speaks America, civilization, the twentieth century, the world's newer and

grander age.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The unexpectedly large plurality for Colonel Stone is a proof that the people, after all, knew malice when they see it and are not taken in by guile. Colonel Stone's hearing during the campaign was in notable contrast to that of his opponents—frank, candid, unassuming and well-poised. He let them do all the sputtering and all the mud-throwing; he appealed solely to the people's common sense. And the vote shows that he gauged the temper of this great commonwealth correctly.

The local sewer journalists who were allowed to represent certain elements in the past campaign in a way that disgusted all fair-minded voters, regardless of party, can now return to their pestilential haunts, where, under the guise of exposing vice, they are prone to agitate the salacious scandal and fatten upon its nauseating and abominable fumes.

The defeat of John F. Reynolds is unfortunate. It is the one spot on an otherwise clean record of Republican victory. But Mr. Reynolds has the satisfaction of knowing that he gave his successful opponent as tight a race as Mr. Timlin could desire.

The indorsement of Colonel Teddy Roosevelt in New York, it is believed, will have a tendency to prevent the Spanish peace commissioners from getting too gay.

Senator Vaughan can thank both his friends and his enemies for his splendid vote; but he should thank his enemies first, for they helped him most.

The fact that the Maria Teresa is about re-emphasizes the need of a court of inquiry to investigate her desertion. That episode looks suspicious.

Editor Grumble, of the Harrisburg Commonwealth, can pass the time until the next campaign telling how it all happened.

It is a pretty safe guess that if Senator Quay cares to return to the senate he can find political transportation.

If Cornelius Smith, esq., is wise, he will now disinfect himself and his newspaper organ and try to be good.

Further money used to raise the Maria Teresa will probably also go into the "sinking fund."

It is difficult to see what portion of the result Mr. Wanamaker expects to celebrate.

Now, then, perhaps ex-Banker Marsh will consent to say something.

According to Dr. Swallow there were no bargain counter votes.

North Carolina evidently needs an army of occupation.

The weather was all right in spite of Professor Moore.

Now Tom Platt's fun will begin.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer.

Astrolabe Cast: 3:45 a. m. for Thursday, November 19, 1898.

A child born on this day will notice that some of the various reformers are rather downcast because they failed to make anybody real mad during the campaign.

Election estimates always look encouraging, but they are not nearly as effective as votes.

The "milk trust" orator of the campaign will now have time to baste his larynx with beer.

Political estimate editors are already drawing maps of the spring campaign.

Thus far Mayor Bailey has shown no disposition to again leap into the hands of his friends.

It is feared that much of the cash shown on Sando will fall to bear the expected fruit in the coming municipal campaign.

And John McArdle is happy because "we scared 'em."

Some Views as to the People's Vote

John Wanamaker: "The machine has been building for forty years, and we have been fighting it for forty weeks, and a whole or partial victory this time will not stop the battle for good government until every office that is a hotbed of corruption is captured by the people. Before this war ends other citizens of power besides those of United States senator and governor must be captured. We have not in this contest attacked some of the most important strongholds for fear of diffusing our strength. The offices of state treasurer, auditor general and secretary of internal affairs are not less important to the tax-payers than that of governor. These are the offices our corporations covet most, and if there is ever an equitable adjustment of taxation, fair dispensation of legislative privileges and retrenchment of expenditures, they must be wrested from machine control. It may be left to others to gather the harvest, but of the plowing and sowing I shall strive to do my full share, this season and next season and all the season until the very last fibre of the poison ivy of Quayism is destroyed."

Philadelphia Ledger (Wanamaker Organ): "We should all be fair to Senator Quay, and frankly concede to him every leaf of the laurel in his wreath of victory. The most respectable and public spirited newspapers in the state opposed him and his candidates; Dr. Swallow and Mr. Jenks, and more powerful than either or both, Mr. Wanamaker, swept through the commonwealth, making earnest, impassioned protests against Quay and Quayism. To overthrow such formidable forces was to win a notable triumph, and Mr. Quay did it. Let him have full credit for again conquering the patriotism, intelligence and integrity of the commonwealth."

New York Commercial Advertiser: "The Pennsylvania election tells us two things we knew before. First, the overwhelming Republicanism of the state, and, second, the unswerving proficiency of Mr. Quay as a practical politician. The Democrats will not gain a senator there, which is the feature interesting to the rest of the country. The people of Pennsylvania have shown their preferences, and that is all they care for."

Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin: "The campaign waged against Colonel Stone was of a most peculiar nature, his enemies resorting to every scheme at their command, fair or foul. But the result

proved that a vast majority of the people of this state cannot be misled by false arguments, they cannot be swayed by the hiss and cry of disappointed politicians, or led to sacrifice a good man to gratify the whims of those less worthy. In Colonel Stone Pennsylvania will have a dignified and able governor, a man in every way deserving of this highest honor in the gift of the people."

Philadelphia Times: "William A. Stone, the vet., is a man of clean record; of admitted honesty of purpose; of undisputed ability, and if he shall be strong enough to follow his own honest convictions in admitting reduced majority, he can retire from the office justly proud of the honor he has won and the record he has made. If he shall yield to the interests of individual leaders and wield his power to maintain factional masters, he must fall in his highest executive duties and leave his important trust unregretted."

Philadelphia Inquirer: "Pennsylvania in electing Stone has given a death-blow to malicious politics and hypocritical pretensions. It has shown the people most valiantly by the president of the United States. Common sense and patriotism always prevail in the long run."

Dr. Swallow: "The purchasable vote is always bought out by the purchaser. Many of the men who talk reform have not time on election day to vote, but they will be in a better position to do so when their efforts begin and end in empty words."

Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin and other papers: "The people have had enough of John Wanamaker."

Philadelphia Press (Wanamaker Organ): Nothing.

CONGRESSMAN CONNELL.

From the Scranton Truth. The election of Congressman Connell to succeed himself as representative in congress of this district, is an emphatic tribute to his personal worth and popularity, notwithstanding the fact that he was by a reduced majority as compared with the magnificent vote he received two years ago. Political traditions more generous to Republican candidates for congress in this district in presidential years than at any other time. The victorious candidate likes to contemplate the figures in a presidential year, but in "off years" it is quite enough to be elected.

This year Mr. Connell bore the brunt of the entire campaign. His prominence as a candidate for governor at the last state convention, and his influence in assisting the nomination of Colonel Stone, greatly embittered John Wanamaker and the members of his strong following against him, and as a result when Mr. Wanamaker visited Scranton, ostensibly to war on Quay, he devoted his best energies to a surprising, unprecedented and unexpected assault on Mr. Connell, who in addition to making his own battle was thus confronted by the concentrated enmity of the anti-Quay faction and following. There were vindictive comments all that were unreasonable in their opposition to Mr. Connell, and that wholly departed party claims in their eagerness to defeat him.

His victory, therefore, in the face of all the bizarre opposition, is one that he may well be proud of. It is a substantial test of his great strength with the people who appreciate his worth as a citizen and a man, as well as a representative in congress in whose care the affairs of this important district are confided. Mr. Connell's re-election was well deserved; and in view of the mean and bitter war made upon him his success is extremely gratifying to his numerous friends.

TRUE INDEPENDENCE.

From the New York Sun. The full significance of the event that has occurred in the politics of New York state will appear slowly to the public comprehension. This is not an ordinary victory of partisanship over partisanship. The new governor of the Empire state has been elected on his merits as a man, and not because he was the dummy representative of any personally driven machine. Theodore Roosevelt carries with him into the executive office the character of his great strength with the people who have begun to know him, and that is a character of absolute independence, absolute fearlessness, and honesty as bright as the sunshine. He has been elected as a whole or partial victory to the public comprehension. This is not an ordinary victory of partisanship over partisanship. The new governor of the Empire state has been elected on his merits as a man, and not because he was the dummy representative of any personally driven machine. 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