

CALEB CONOVER.

(From preceding page.)

yourself. And the queen can do no wrong. I've known you nearly all your life. If it had been possible for you to harbor a mean or dishonest impulse I'd have been the first person on earth to guess it. Because no one else would have cared as I did. As I do. I don't understand it at all. And just at first it bowled me over, and a whole rush of disloyal thoughts and doubts came over me. But I know now it's all right, somehow, for it's you."

"You mean," exclaimed the girl, wonderingly, "that after what I've told you, you trust me?"

"Why, of course."

"And you don't even ask me to explain?"

"If there was anything I had a right to know—that you wanted me to know—you'd have explained of your own accord."

She looked at him long, searchingly. Her face was as inscrutable as the Sphinx's, yet when she spoke it was of a totally different theme.

"What are you going to do?" she inquired.

"Do?" he repeated, perplexed.

"Yes, about the campaign."

"There's nothing to do. I am beaten. When the convention meets, in half an hour, Conover will be nominated. Only my two blocks of delegates will be left to oppose him, against all that whole—"

"Yes; yes, I know that," she interposed, "but what then?"

"That is the end, I suppose. Perhaps by the next gubernatorial campaign—"

"The next? This campaign hasn't fairly begun yet. Do you mean to say you are going to sit by with folded hands and accept defeat?"

"What else is left?"

"Everything is left. You have tried to fight an all-powerful machine, to fight it on its own ground, along its own lines, yet refusing to use its own weapons or to guard against them. And you have failed. The real fight begins now."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean you must call on the people at large to help you. You have aroused them. Already there is so much discontent against Boss Rule that Mr. Conover is troubled. You have no right to abandon the Cause now that you've interested others in it. Put yourself in the people's hands."

"You mean to—?"

"To declare yourself an independent candidate."

"Bolt the Democratic ticket?"

"It—"

"It is against custom, but good men have done it. In this battle, as I understand it, there is no question of party issues. It is the people against the Machine. Can't you see?"

"Yes," he replied, after a moment of hesitation, "I see. And you are right. But it means only the courting of further defeat. What Conover has already done in muzzling the press and using other crooked tactics, he will continue to do. My speeches won't be allowed to circulate. My meetings will be broken up. More Conover men will register than can be found on the census list. And on Election Day there will be the usual ballot frauds. All the voting machinery is in Conover's hands. Even if I won I would be counted out at the polls. No—"

"Wait! If I can clear the way for you, if I can insure you a fair chance, if I can prevent any frauds and force Mr. Conover to leave the issue honestly to the people of the Mountain State—if I can do all this, then will you declare yourself an independent candidate, and—?"

"But how can you—a girl—do all this?"

"I'll explain that to you afterwards. But it won't be in any unfair or underhand way. You said just now you trusted me. Can't you trust me in this, too?"

"You know I can."

"And you'll do as I ask?"

"Yes."

"Good!"

"It's worth trial. I'll do it."

"Then I shall be the first to congratulate the future Governor."

"Ance!"—the old-time boyish impetuosity she so well remembered flashing into one of its rare occurrences—"If I win this fight—if I am elected Governor—I shall have something worth while at last to offer you. If I come to you the day I am elected—"

"I shall congratulate you only as I would any other friend."

His lips tightened as at a blow. For a moment neither spoke. It was Clive who broke the silence.

"I have said it awkwardly," he began. "If it had been less to me I might have found more eloquence. I love you. I think I have always loved you. You know that. A woman always knows. I love you. I loved you in the old days, when I was too poor to have the right to speak. What little I am—what little I may have achieved—is for you. I have not made much of myself. But that I've made anything at all is due to you. In everything I have done, your eyes and your smile have been before me. At heart, I've laid every success at your feet. At heart I've asked your faith and your pardon for each of my failures. And, whether you care or not, it will always be the same. That one dear ambition will spur me on to make the very best of myself. My victories shall be your victories whether you wish it or not. Perhaps that seems to you presumptuous or foolish?"

"No."

There was no perceptible emotion in the half-whispered word. From it Clive could glean nothing. Presently he went on:

"I think whenever you see a man

trying to make the most of all that is in him, and wearing out his very soul in this breakneck American race for livelihood, you'll find there is some woman behind it all. It is for her, not for his own selfish ambition, that he is fighting. Sometimes she crowns his victory. Sometimes he wins only the thorn-crown. But the glory of the work and the winning are hers. Not his. Now you know why I entered this Governorship fight, and why I am willing to keep it up. Oh, sweetheart, I love you so. You must understand, now, why I longed to come to you in my hour of triumph and—"

"You would have come too late," she said in that same enigmatic undertone.

"Ance!"

There was a world of pain in his appeal, yet she disregarded it; and, with face averted, hurried on:

"Would you care for—for the love of a girl who made you wait until you could buy her with fame and an income? Do I care for the love of a man who holds that love so cheaply he must accompany its gift with a Governorship title—?"

"And now," she observed, some minutes later, as she strove to rearrange her tumbled crown of rust-colored hair before the tiny patch of office mirror, "and now, if you can be sensible for just a little while, we'll go back to the convention. And I'll explain to you about those letters. The anonymous ones."

"It's all right. I don't have to be told. I—"

"But I have to tell you. That's the worst of being a girl."

CHAPTER XVI.

To Smash the Machine.

THE crowd had trooped back into the Convention Hall.

The Conover machine, having greased the wheels and oiled the cogs, did not propose to lose any time in running its juggernaut over the young reformer who had dared to brave an entrenched and ruthless organization.

The Committee on Resolutions offered a perfunctory platform filled with the customary hackneyed phrases, lauding the deeds of Democracy and denouncing the Republican party.

Bourke, temporary chairman, succeeded himself as permanent chairman.

Then, while the Conover claque hooted joyously and the Standish men sat by in helpless silence, the finishing stroke was delivered.

Two reports were offered from the Committee on Credentials, one of the minority, signed by the six members from Wills and Matawan, recommending the seating of the contesting Standish delegates from the other six counties; the other, signed by the eighteen Conover members of the committee, recommending that the delegates holding credentials be allowed to retain their seats.

The majority report was jammed through, while Shevlin's noble army of brazen-lunged shouters cheered, screeched and blew tin horns.

In his den behind the stage Caleb Conover's mouth corners twisted in a grim smile of satisfaction as the babel of noise reached him. From some mysterious source Shevlin had produced a half-dozen bottles of champagne, and there, in the room of the successful candidate, corks were drawn and success was pledged to "the Mountain State's next and greatest Governor," with Caleb's time-honored slogan, "To hell with reform!" as a rider.

In another room, directly across the stage, a very different scene was in action. Karl Ansel had left his seat in the Wills County delegation, turning over the floor leadership of the forlorn hope to Judge Shep, of Matawan, and had gone direct to Standish's quarters. The room had been empty when he entered, but before he had waited thirty seconds, the door was flung open and Clive hurried in.

Ansel looked sharply at him, then in astonished bewilderment. He had expected to find the beaten man dejected, bereft of even his customary strong calm. On the contrary, Standish, his face alive with resolve and with some other impulse that baffled even Ansel's shrewd observation, came into the place like a whirlwind. Kicking aside the litter of dusty stage properties and dingy, discovered hangings that were piled near the door, he made his way to Karl and grasped his hand.

"How goes it?" he asked. "I'm sorry to be late. I thought—"

"Well, boy, it's all up," said Ansel. "Some fool said once that virtue was its own reward, and I guess it just naturally has to be. It never gets any other. In half an hour from now Caleb Conover will be nominated for Governor, and we will be bowing our necks for his collar, and pledging ourselves to support him and his dirty gang, just as we always have in the past and just as we always will in the future, I presume. We put up a good fight and an honest one, but you see where it's landed us. So far as we are concerned, it's all over but the shouting."

And the grim old New Englander dropped his hand upon the shoulder of the defeated candidate with an awkward gesture that was half a caress.

"You're mistaken," retorted Clive. "The shouting has just begun. Ansel, I have made up my mind. A man owes more to his State than he owes to his party. Political regularity is one thing, and common decency is another. I marched into this convention a free man, with nobody's collar on my neck, and I'm going to march out in the same way."

"What?" almost shouted Ansel. "You're not going to bolt?"

"Yes, I am," answered Standish.

"And I'm going to bolt right now before the nomination is made."

"But man," protested Ansel, "think of it—the irregularity of it! You'll be branded as a bolter and a renegade, and a traitor and a lot of other things. Why, man alive, it'll never do."

"It will do," responded Standish.

"I have it all planned. If we walk out of this convention now, we are going to take some of the delegates with us. I believe that the Independents will endorse us, and I believe that the Republicans will endorse us; if we take this stand. I believe that there are thousands of Democrats who think more of the State than they do of any one man or any one party. They have followed Conover because there was no one else to follow. Yes, I'm going to bolt, and I'm going out there now and tell these people why I do it."

"But look here, Standish," remonstrated Ansel, "that's mighty near as irregular as the bolting itself, going out there and making a speech. No candidate's ever supposed to show his face to the convention until after the nomination is made. You know that, don't you? Then, after the nomination he comes out either to accept it or to promise his support to the winner. You'll bust the party traditions all to flinders."

"Very well," assented Clive, "if I can smash the Machine, too, it's all I care for."

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HOME DRESSMAKING

By Mrs. Jeanne.

GIRLS' DRESS.



Pattern No. 3242.—The yoke, which is such an attractive feature of this dress, is of novel shaping and appears in the back as well as in the front. The front is slightly full, but the back is without gathers. To the body portions the skirt is gathered, a belt concealing the joining.

The pattern is in 4 sizes—6 to 12 years. For a girl of 8 years the dress requires 2 7/8 yards of material 36 inches wide, with, as shown, 5 1/4 yards of braid.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS. For each pattern desired, send 10c. (In stamps only) to this paper. Give No. of pattern and size wanted.

INTELLIGENCE OF THE FOX.

Apparently Able to Distinguish Between Real and False Dangers.

The intelligence of the fox is often shown by the way he refuses to be headed when he has made up his mind as to the safe course to take. The West Somerset has an excellent fixture at Kilve, but it has one drawback—the sea is not far off, and foxes naturally often make for the cliffs, a secure refuge. A fox can be easily headed at times, but that is nearly always when to be seen would betray him to his enemies, the hounds and give them an advantage; but when he makes his point the advantage is on his side, then nothing will turn him.

To return to the West Somerset at Kilve; they found a fox, and the whipper-in, seeing that the fox meant to go to the cliffs if possible, started to head him off. The ground was open, and for half a mile the whipper-in and fox were taking parallel lines, the fox clearly meaning to slip by and find a refuge in the cliffs. The man turned the fox away at last, but in a short time the hounds lost him, and I believe he got back after all.

Again the master ranged up some of the field to prevent another fox going back into a certain covert. In vain whips were rattled against saddle flaps; the fox went right through the watchers and made his point. It is a thing I have often noticed both with stag or fox, that the quarry seems to distinguish between real and false dangers.—London Globe.

Overweights.

The excessive mortality of overweighted men has been published by life insurance statisticians, and the phenomenon must be considered in football discussions. It is now a proved fact that the men who are barred from the game are the ones who live the longest, and though mere length of life is no criterion of its usefulness, yet it is a fair assumption that the longest lived are the most vigorous and, therefore, the best brain workers.

The colleges are then spending the most money on the students who will give the least returns. Every now and then some ingenious fellow publishes statistics showing that students able to take part in sports outside those too defective to take any part at all, as though that needed numerical proof.

The new statistics show that the healthy underweights excluded from football are fitter for survival in America than the overweighted of the teams.—American Medicine.

An Onion Soup Cure.

The great dean of a great profession when too merry is kept in bed by his wife for two or three days and fed on onion soup. All the shutters are kept closed and the rooms darkened until perfect recovery to usual gaiety and balance comes. The pair have stood many triumphs, many sorrows and many honors. It is not past belief that George D. Prentice or Tom Marshall had still lived on such good wifely devotion.

Undoubtedly Not.

Capt. Jerome, while visiting Col. Higginson, took a derringer from the table, and asked: "This thing loaded?" But before the colonel could reply the weapon was discharged, the bullet tearing away one of the fingers of the visitor. The colonel, who is widely known on account of his extreme politeness, bowed gracefully, and rejoined: "Not now, my dear captain."

(From page one.)

and capital of the country.

Berry as a Bryanite.

"We must recognize in Mr. Berry the only conspicuous representative of Mr. Bryan and his policies now before the people of this state. To every policy advocated by the Nebraskan he has given loyal allegiance. But Mr. Bryan has practically ceased to be a figure of national importance, and this is due to the fact that all of his so-called policies have been defeated and repudiated by the American people."

"As Mr. Bryan has been repudiated, so do I believe Pennsylvania will refuse to give his lieutenant, Mr. Berry, the support he asks. His speeches upon the stump create sincere doubt as to his soundness and safety, and the belief arises that he is not fitted, either by temperament or judgment, to preside over the destinies of this great commonwealth. There is an absence of self-poise, of self-control in his speech, and of good temper, which are essential to the great responsibilities of a chief magistrate."

"Wide latitude is permitted in the arena of political discussion, but surely Mr. Berry has passed the danger limit, and, as a result, we find the air filled with confusing explanations of his business relations with a leading Democratic politician, none of which seem to be borne out by the facts, and this is followed by an intemperate denunciation of the public press without exception. He not only condemns it as destitute of patriotism and virtue, but proceeds to pass judgment upon all the newspaper men of the state, and without mercy joyfully consigns them to be burned at the stake."

"Such a cruel and barbarous punishment is prohibited by the constitution, but this does not seem to matter to Mr. Berry—apparently he would like to be present at the hoped-for event and play the part of chief torch-bearer at the ceremonies."

"These things which an attentive public has learned, together with the astonishing statement that, because of his discovery of the capitol frauds, he was compelled to have a bodyguard in constant attendance about his person in order to prevent his assassination—something which has hitherto been unknown to any one, with perhaps the exception of Mr. Berry—strongly indicate that one of such excitable temperament and susceptible to such beliefs, practices and delusions is not the kind of a man that this state is entitled to have for governor."

"Conditions within the state are eminently satisfactory."

"What we need in the high office of governor and the other offices to be filled in this election is calmness, not impulsiveness, a judgment of men and affairs that is broadened and ripened by experience—a just conception of the powers of government, a keen and sympathetic appreciation of the rights of the citizen, and a comprehensive idea of the manifold interests and elements that enter into the complex life of this great commonwealth. Above all, we need a man safe and sure, and the Republican party has risen equal to the demand."

"We have named as the candidate for governor a man with a true heart, with a sound brain in a sound body, who has toiled in the workshop and in the mills and is in strong and lasting sympathy with labor; who step by step moved forward and identified himself with the business enterprises of his section, where he has attained a position which commands the undivided respect of those who love honesty and believe in genuine manhood; who has represented his district in the congress of the United States ably and faithfully; whose reputation for integrity is of the highest, and whose Republicanism has always been of the right kind; who is in accord and sympathy with the policies of the Stuart administration, and who has promised the people that when governor he will esteem it a privilege and duty to conduct the state government in accordance with these policies."

"I propose amendments to the Constitution submitted to the citizens of this Commonwealth for their approval or rejection, by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and published by order of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, in pursuance of Article XVIII of the Constitution."

Number One.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to section twenty-six of article five of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That the following amendment to section twenty-six of article five of the Constitution of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:—

That section 26 of Article V, which reads as follows: "Section 26. All laws relating to courts shall be general and of uniform operation, and the organization, jurisdiction, and powers of all courts of the same class or grade, so far as regulated by law, and the force and effect of the process and judgments of such courts, shall be uniform; and the General Assembly is hereby prohibited from creating other courts to exercise the powers vested by this Constitution in the judges of the Courts of Common Pleas and Orphans' Courts," be amended so that the same shall read as follows:—

Section 26. All laws relating to courts shall be general and of uniform operation, and the organization, jurisdiction, and powers of all courts of the same class or grade, so far as regulated by law, and the force and effect of the process and judgments of such courts, shall be uniform; but, notwithstanding any provisions of this Constitution, the General Assembly shall have full power to establish new courts, from time to time, as the same may be needed in any city or county, and to prescribe the powers and jurisdiction thereof, and to increase the number of judges in any courts now existing or hereafter created, or to reorganize the same, or to vest in other courts the jurisdiction theretofore exercised by courts not of record, and to abolish the same wherever it may be deemed necessary for the orderly and efficient administration of justice.

Section 26. The debt of any city, city, borough, township, school district, or other municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation, so as to read as follows:—

Section 8. The debt of any city, city, borough, township, school district, or other municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation, except that any debt or public improvement, owned or to be owned by said city and county of Philadelphia, and which shall yield to the city and county of Philadelphia current net revenue in excess of the interest on said debt or debts and of the amortization payments necessary for the cancellation of said debt or debts, may be excluded in ascertaining the power of the city and county of Philadelphia to become otherwise indebted: Provided, That a sinking fund for their cancellation shall be established as herein maintained.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 4. ROBERT McAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Four.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to section eight, article nine, of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 8. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:—

Amendment to Article Nine, Section Eight.

Section 2. Amend section eight, article nine, of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which reads as follows:—

"Section 8. The debt of any city, city, borough, township, school district, or other municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation, so as to read as follows:—

Section 8. The debt of any city, city, borough, township, school district, or other municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation, except that any debt or public improvement, owned or to be owned by said city and county of Philadelphia, and which shall yield to the city and county of Philadelphia current net revenue in excess of the interest on said debt or debts and of the amortization payments necessary for the cancellation of said debt or debts, may be excluded in ascertaining the power of the city and county of Philadelphia to become otherwise indebted: Provided, That a sinking fund for their cancellation shall be established as herein maintained.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 4. ROBERT McAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

A true copy of Resolution No. 1. ROBERT McAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Two.

RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, so as to eliminate the requirement of payment of taxes as a qualification of the right to vote.

Resolved (if the House of Representatives concur), That the following amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:—

That section one of article eight be amended, by striking out the fourth numbered paragraph thereof, so that the said section shall read as follows:—

Section 1. Every male citizen twenty-one years of age, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections, subject however to such laws requiring and regulating the registration of electors as the General Assembly may enact.

First. He shall have been a citizen of the United States at least one month.

Second. He shall have resided in the State one year (or if, having previously been a qualified elector in this Commonwealth, he shall have removed therefrom and returned, then six months), immediately preceding the election.

Third. He shall have resided in the election district where he shall offer to vote at least two months immediately preceding the election.

A true copy of Resolution No. 2. ROBERT McAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Three.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, so as to consolidate the courts of common pleas of Allegheny County.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:—

That section six of article five be amended, by striking out the said section, and inserting in place thereof the following:—

Section 6. In the county of Philadelphia all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in the district courts and courts of common pleas, subject to such changes as may be made by this Constitution or by law, shall be in Philadelphia vested in five distinct and separate courts of equal and co-ordinate jurisdiction, composed of three judges each. The said courts in Philadelphia shall be designated respectively as the court of common pleas, number one, number two, number three, number four, and number five, but the number of said courts may be by law increased, from time to time, and shall be in like manner designated by successive numbers. The number of judges in any of said courts, or in any county where the establishment of an additional court may be authorized by law, may be increased, from time to time, and whenever such increase shall amount in the whole to three, such three judges shall compose a district court as provided in the foregoing section, which shall be numbered as aforesaid. In Philadelphia all suits shall be instituted in the said courts of common pleas without designating the number of the said court, and the several courts shall extend to all proceedings and business among them in such manner as shall be provided by rules of court, and each court, to which any suit shall be thus assigned, shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof, subject to change of venue, as shall be