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W. L. JACOBS.

ORLEANS COUNTY MONITOR.

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We have received several copies of the latest work in fiction issued by the McCullough Literary Bureau of Newport for which we would extend thanks. In sending this literature out the McCullough managers are making their last desperate attempt to save their candidate by making an attack upon Col. Proctor's standing as a supporter of the prohibitory law. In this they have only made themselves ridiculous.

The Burlington Free Press after printing a communication misrepresenting Ex-Gov. Woodbury's position in the gubernatorial contest, refused to publish an article which Gov. Woodbury sent in reply, thus obliging him to send it to another paper for publication. This method of misrepresenting the true state of affairs in a political contest is a marked characteristic of the McCullough press and one which will tend to lessen rather than increase McCullough's popularity with the people.

We give in another column an article under the head of "How Shall I Vote," from the pen of Mr. C. F. Ranney of Newport. Mr. Ranney is well known throughout the state as a strong worker in the temperance cause and is a man who is always bound on the right side of every issue relating to the welfare of the community. He was a supporter of Gen. McCullough in this campaign until the conditions not only justified but demanded that he transfer his allegiance to Fletcher D. Proctor. Our readers will find this letter of interest.

The first republican caucus in La-Boile county was held this afternoon at Elmore and was somewhat of a surprise. It was expected this was a McCullough town but the Proctor men had been conducting a still hunt and elected two delegates by a vote of 57 to 23.—Free Press.

This tells the whole story. The McCullough campaigners realizing that their candidate is losing ground have been calling caucuses in the towns which it was understood they were to carry without trouble, but the leaders have found themselves without support from the people and a result Proctor is securing delegates from towns which his own supporters had practically conceded to McCullough.

At the caucus held in Montpelier to elect the Clement ticket defeated McCullough ticket by a small majority. The Montpelier Journal complains the defeat of his candidate stating that many voters who favored Gen. McCullough remained at home, which is apparently the fact as a vote was a small one. However, a question comes up why these men remained away from the polls. If there had been a Proctor delegation the field there is no doubt that the voters would have been out in force, with only Clement and McCullough delegates to be voted upon. The issue between the two men was sufficiently strong to draw the people out. In connection with this it will be noted that Clement has notified his campaign into Bennington county but has remained out of it entirely although there is every reason to expect that the high license idea is a popular one there. Mr. Clement made an appointment at Manchester but cancelled it. He makes a fight in some towns in order that he may have a sufficient number of delegates to give him the balance of power in a convention, enable him to defeat Proctor and to make the best possible deal with McCullough.

The following is copied from the Boston news of the Island Pond fight:

A siege of newspapers continue to be forwarded here advocating the election of Gen. McCullough. Commentators for him are on the alert, this political machine catches up with the bait, "We don't want a tidal ring which selects all the candidates to be tolerated longer." They claim that placing a New York man at the head of state affairs would not be an effectual preventative of rings or cliques in the future. One is taken in by the circulating statement that the license men are Proctor who supported Dr. Webb. The fact is a loud truth that these voters think more of the man

Fletcher D. Proctor than of the option theory. Vermonters abroad send messages of regret that they cannot be home to help elect a delegate for Proctor. One individual writes: "I admire the man who would be elected without money, or defeated. Who wants a figure-head for a governor without any principles made known."

HOW SHALL I VOTE?

The present canvass for governor has developed so much heat, and so many reckless assertions have been made by the partisan press that the average voter, even the one who has read both sides is possibly at a loss to know just where he should stand. There are some strange affiliations, Page and Powers, for instance, both supporting McCullough. The prohibition Brattleboro Phoenix and the high license St. Albans Messenger both supporting Proctor. The old lines are a good deal broken up and the cause is largely P. W. Clement.

Let us get back to the beginning and see if we can understand the tangle. Five years ago J. G. McCullough made a move for the governorship of the state. He was a man of excellent ability, but his life in the state had not brought him much in contact with the common affairs of the state. He had occupied the position of delegate to national conventions, and had presided at political meetings, positions which did not require close intimacy with state affairs. Thinking that E. C. Smith of St. Albans was likely to receive the larger measure of support, he gracefully withdrew from the campaign of 1898, possibly thinking that that act would give him the nomination four years thereafter without opposition. Bennington county elected him senator, and at the session of 1898 he was regularly in his seat for the most part and bore his share in the deliberations of that body. At the same session Dr. W. Seward Webb was a member of the house from Shelburne, and he also had an eye on the governorship. In process of time both gentlemen were announced as candidates, and the contest was on. It had not progressed very far before many men began to be alarmed at methods with which were being adopted. Rumors were rife that very much money was to be used in the canvass, an amount greatly in excess of anything which could be called legitimate. Probably the rumors were exaggerated, but there was enough foundation in fact to create a widespread desire to prevent such a campaign. Let any good man be secured to prevent it, no matter who, so long as he was a man of recognized ability. Naturally the minds of men turned to Fletcher Proctor, and he was importuned to allow the use of his name for those to rally around who were averse to the money method. It was only after long persuasion that he finally yielded. Very shortly after he did come into the field Mr. Webb withdrew. It has been claimed that this withdrawal and Proctor's entry were prearranged, but this is denied point blank, both by Mr. Proctor and Mr. Webb, and its repeated assertion by the opposition is only a piece of political trickery.

But with this change of candidates came a new alignment. Some of Webb's supporters went to McCullough and some of McCullough's went to Proctor. The newspapers declared for one or other of the men, and the canvass began again with no other thought than the ordinary issues which come to the front every two years, mainly which is the more popular of the candidates who happen to be named. A new issue, however, was presented when Mr. Clement entered the race on an avowedly high license platform. Mr. McCullough was asked his position, and he declared that he should be governed entirely by the legislature; if that was prohibition he would be prohibition; if it was high license he would be for high license. His record at the session of 1898 was looked up and it was found that his present position was strictly in keeping with his action at that time. When the matter was under consideration then he avoided personal declaration, depending on his associates for his opinion. While he was regularly in his seat when all other matters were debated and came to a vote, he absented himself when the "paramount issue" came to the decisive point. Mr. Proctor was also asked his position, and he made the unequivocal answer that he was in favor of the present law. His record at the session of 1900, when he was speaker of the house, was looked up and it was found that the only time he cast a vote (the speaker does not usually vote) was in favor of the present law.

Considerable talk has been made because the high license St. Albans Messenger has been using Proctor's temperance principles as an argument in his favor. Everybody knows that a non church member can tell just how a church member ought to live, because the lines of conduct by general consent are well marked. Therefore it is not to be wondered at that the Messenger in this case should see the weak point in the McCullough declaration and make the most of it. Had the Free Press been on the other side it would have scored such a declaration unmercifully. But both papers were pledged to their candidates before the temperance issue was forced to the front, and a newspaper never recedes from a position it once takes.

The temperance men of the state have but to contrast the statements of the two candidates, and look at the records they made when in 1898 and 1900 there was no political office mixed up with it, to find just which comes nearest to the loyal Vermont idea.

It is admitted that this campaign will not be decisive on temperance lines, because as the papers were pledged before the issue of temperance was made, so many good men had pledged themselves to McCullough without thought of the temperance issue at all. But the great number of men are not pledged, and it remains with them to say where the tide shall turn.

We believe that a candid weighing of the facts as outlined above, and a general survey of the best interests of the state will show that Fletcher Proctor is the best man to put in the governor's chair this year.

In view of the cry that there was an alliance between him and the high license forces, and that he must of necessity be controlled by them if elected, it is significant to see that the Clement delegates elected in Montpelier were understood by the Free Press to be ready to vote for McCullough as second choice. This one fact outweighs a thousand assertions to the effect that the high license sentiment prefers Proctor to McCullough. Acts speak louder than words.
C. F. RANNEY.

POLITICAL TRICKERY CONDEMNED.

To the Editor of the Monitor:

I wish to say a few words in your paper concerning that remarkable circular sent out from the McCullough camp at Newport saying, in capital letters that "Temperance and prohibition are unsafe in the hands of Proctor," that the "Ram element is supporting Proctor," that "No one knows what Proctor would do in temperance matters were he governor," and capping this colossal pile of—well I will call it information—with the announcement that McCullough is the "Moses" to lead the temperance people out of the wilderness; because Frank Plumley, in a letter accompanying the circular, says so.

The people of this county are familiar with the letters of these two candidates written for the purpose of stating their respective positions upon prohibition and must already have an opinion, as to frankness and concealment, so conspicuous in the two epistles. This I do not care to discuss, for, to any unprejudiced mind the letters are clear that Proctor is for prohibition and McCullough is in the hands of a majority of the next legislature.

McCullough dodged voting on all temperance questions when a senator. The record shows that he dodged and neither he nor any one for him in all the canvass denies that he dodged, and if a prohibitionist why did he dodge that important, responsible duty which his oath as senator required him fearlessly to discharge. Proctor did not dodge his vote in the House in 1900 on temperance questions.

McCullough has not said and does not say in so many straightforward words that he is and always has been in favor of the prohibitory law as Proctor frankly does. Then from what these two men have done when acting as public servants in the matter of temperance legislation and what they have said in the letters referred to can any one doubt in whose hands—Proctor or McCullough—the temperance interests of the state would be safest.

Gen. McCullough could so easily say that he is a prohibitionist and could so easily have voted as a prohibitionist would have voted that we have a right to put him down as for license.

Does it recommend a man to be governor, who, in the face and eyes of these facts poses as a prohibitionist,

and who, when a senator in 1898 left his seat to avoid answering his name when it was about to be called in voting on the license bill of that session, and will the Hon. Frank Plumley point out the consistency of such conduct.

This canvass is drawing to a close, and to say nothing about methods which have covered the state with newspapers and circulars and money and all such, thicker than the plagues of Egypt, I trust in the closing scenes of this great drama, the voter will not lose sight of the fact that our next governor ought to be a Vermonter, a young man in the prime of a noble manhood and above all he ought to be a man who has always voted and now stands unequivocally for our prohibitory policy, the sheet-anchor of the best and dearest to us all. The choice of a license governor will be a direct step toward the saloon in Vermont, which to me presages a desolation of heart, head and home we may well wish to avoid.
GREEN MOUNTAIN BOY.

Of the 19 Vermont newspapers that are supporting Mr. Proctor, only two advocate license. Of the 25 Vermont newspapers that are supporting Gen. McCullough, not less than nine advocate license. So much for the prattle about the "motley host" that follows Proctor's prohibition banner—and the silence about the composition of the McCullough following.—Randolph Herald and News.

The Reason Why.

Will the editor of the St. Johnsbury Republican deny that on several occasions he stated in substance that he is in this governorship fight for what there is in it, and would support the candidate who would pay most liberally?—Lyndonville Journal.

Yes, sir! We do most emphatically deny it. Look at the absurdity of the Journal's idea. The Republican is supporting Proctor. Were the above implication correct, we ought to be supporting McCullough, for not many months ago the present editor of the Journal acting as the alleged and accredited agent of McCullough's campaign managers, offered us more money if the Republican would support his candidate than we ever had proffered us before or since by all the other candidates for all the offices put together. But when he found that the Republican's editorial opinions were not for sale, and that the same thing was also true of our neighbor, the Caledonian, he did the only thing left for him to do if he wanted newspaper support for his candidate in this section, and that was to go to Lyndonville and purchase the Journal.

This is the whole story in a nutshell. The Journal's ghost stories are getting to be quite a feature of the present campaign.—St. Johnsbury Republican.

The sober, order-loving people of this section will read with amazement and indignation the detailed story from the Burlington Daily News, published elsewhere, respecting the political club rooms that are conducted in that city in the interest of Gen. McCullough. The fame of these clubs has spread somewhat by current report, but this is the first description given in public print. Certain prominent McCullough men of Burlington have made haste to deny the responsibility of Gen. McCullough in the serving of beer at these club rooms, and say that Mr. Barber distinctly ordered that it should not be served. At the same time, it is established that beer has been served at some or all of these clubs. And in spite of their professions of innocence, the managers of the McCullough campaign, both state and local, cannot evade responsibility. They rented and fitted up these club rooms, at which smoking and card playing were established institutions. What else could have been anticipated than that drinking would accompany? The "beer vote" of Burlington and some other towns is a not inconsiderable factor, and nobody supposes for a moment that the shrewd McCullough workers of that city would not take steps to land it in the most effective way, without, perhaps, giving the details to Gen. McCullough or those of his leaders who would object to such methods. There was no justification in the beginning for opening these joints, and those responsible for it cannot wash their hands of the consequences. It all comes of trying to use immense sums of money "legitimately," to accomplish political designs.—Randolph Herald and News.

Lord Pancofote, the British ambassador, died in Washington, D. C., last Saturday morning, of heart failure.

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WANTED: A good tenement in Barton village. Address MONITOR Office, Barton, Vt.

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FOUND. A bunch of keys. Owner call at MONITOR office and get them.

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