

NOVEMBER 10, 1886

Democratic Defeat the Result of Over-Confidence.

Burgardner's Strength His Weakness.

Gives the Captivity Agent to John S. Barbour.

The hurly-burly of the day, the battle fought and the victory won—not by the Democrats.

The fact that the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong.

The hare, though fleet of foot, was beaten by the slow-moving tortoise. The hare was so confident of winning the race that it thought it would have time to stop and rest and sleep on the way, and when it reached the goal, it was surprised to find that the tortoise was already there to receive and triumph over its super-confident competitor.

The vote in the recent election in this State shows that the victory won by the Republicans was not due to any increase in the vote of that party, for it cast a less vote than it did two years ago, but to the lamentable fact that the Democrats failed to cast their full vote by many thousands.

Through their own fault, they failed to overcome it. It is useless for me to lose my time in going to the polls to vote, when my vote is not needed, and when it is such a good day to be ploughed, therefore I will remain at home and work on the farm.

Each one thought that his vote would not change the result, and therefore it was not necessary for him to vote—not knowing that thousands of others reasoned and acted in the same way.

The Republicans, on the other hand, seeing the rapidly approaching Democratic party, and the over-confidence that paralyzed all effort, wisely concluded to avail themselves of the opportunity thus presented for a minority to win the victory, and they quietly, persistently, and energetically rallied their forces and got their voters to the polls, and thus won the victory over their somewhat opponents, who failed to be aroused to the performance of their duty till they found themselves, through their own remissness, suffering a humiliating defeat.

The strength of Burgardner proved to be his weakness. He was so strong that his political, and many of his personal, friends thought that there could be no possibility of his defeat, and hence they made no effort to get out the vote, and many failed to vote because they felt that there was no necessity to do so, and thus enough of his personal and political friends remained at home to give the Republican candidate a large majority, though he did not receive as many votes as he did when he was defeated by Tucker by a majority of 1,187 in the District, and 999 in this county, showing that the defeat of Burgardner was not due to the number of votes cast for his competitor, but by the number of Democrats who failed to vote, chiefly for the reason that they did not deem it necessary to secure Burgardner's election. If his strength had not been so great, his friends would have made an effort to secure his election, for then they would have deemed such an effort necessary; but they relied so confidently upon his popular strength that they failed to make any effort in his behalf, and thus it was, as paradoxical as it may seem, his strength proved to be his weakness.

Though Yost received less votes than when defeated by Tucker, yet, because of the remissness of Democrats, though, unlike the lightning bug, he had not the "wing of fame" in the "4-47" in the Presidential song, "he got there all the same."

We endeavored to guard our party against the danger of over-confidence, and earnestly urged the importance of casting every Democratic vote. We hope it will future, every Democrat will resolve to vote, for that is his duty—surfrage is not a privilege merely, but an important duty which should be conscientiously performed. If in this effect, it will be blessing in disguise, and of great importance.

Our Candidate.

In the defeat which the Democratic party of this Congressional district realizes the delinquent members of that political organization in the next election, it is to be regretted that there has been no one in the district who has no place in the thought of any candidate or those who sustained him in the able and vigilant canvass which he made. In every part of the district, except his own county, in which he was content to leave results with those he had served so well when all were enthusiastic in rolling up great majorities for other leaders, his voice was heard and every effort of his mind and heart was wholly devoted to the responsibility placed by the party upon him. He discharged his entire duty, and for him less than themselves, and in fact, he had closed to participate in the contest, they would have been spared future regrets that will never come to the champion of their professed principles.

Our County Committee.

Had victory crowned our canvass in the district a general gratification would have taken the place of assignment of this, that, and other causes of defeat. So far as the results in Augusta county is concerned, there should be the same feelings expressed by our committee and canvassers for the services rendered, though a meagre majority was obtained, as if a triumph like that of former years had crowned their labors. Judge Hudson and his associates in directing the canvass did all that could be done, and had their efforts been seconded by the Democrats who failed to vote, victory and defeat would be the more pleasing realization of the day.

MEETING OF TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY EDUCATION FUND.

We are indebted to Hon. A. H. H. STUART, a member of the Board, for a copy of the proceedings of the Trustees of the Peabody Education Fund at their 25th meeting in the fifth Avenue Hotel in N. Y. City on the 6th October, 1886, with the annual report of the acting General Agent, Dr. Samuel A. Green.

In consequence of ill-health at the time of the meeting, Mr. Stuart was unable to attend.

The President of the Board, Hon. Robt. C. Winthrop of Mass., upon the subject of National aid to education, referred to the admirable report of Mr. Stuart on that subject made as early as the 19th of February, 1880, in favor of making provision for the education of the great masses of colored children growing up in the conditions of hopeless ignorance in the Southern States.

The Board unanimously adopted the following: "That, in view of the disastrous situation in Charleston, S. C., caused by the calamity of the recent earthquake, the Executive Committee be directed to consider the best mode and application of any aid which the Peabody Education Fund has already appropriated at this time during the present year."

The principal sum (\$2,000,000) given by Mr. Peabody for the Southern schools has not been, and will not be, diminished, and yet a sum considerably more than a million and a half of dollars has already been appropriated to the aid of schools in the South with the most satisfactory and successful results. The amount of appropriation from the Peabody Fund for the three Institutes held in this State last Summer was \$1,900, of which \$1,755 was expended, leaving a balance of \$325.

To Virginia is allotted 14 scholarships in the Normal College at Nashville, Tennessee. Each of these scholarships represents \$200.

HOW IT WAS DONE!

The very great reduction in the Democratic majority in this county in the recent Congressional election was not due to an increase of the Republican vote, but to the neglect of many Democrats to vote, for Yost received 164 votes less than he did in 1884, and for the reason that many Democrats failed to vote—probably because they did not deem their votes necessary—Burgardner received 871 less than Tucker.

In opposition to Tucker, Yost received 3093—in opposition to Burgardner, 2899, a falling off of 164 votes, and Burgardner received 4323 votes, and Burgardner, a falling off of 871, making the loss of the Democrats from this cause 707 more than that of the Republicans, and thus the majority of 969 for Tucker was reduced to 262 for Burgardner. If the 871 Democrats who voted for Tucker, and who failed to vote in the last election, had cast their votes for Burgardner, they should have done so, his majority would have been 1,133, instead of only 262.

This should teach the Democrats a salutary lesson, and should make them resolve in all future elections to cast their votes when they deem it necessary or not.

In our issue immediately preceding the election, we urged the duty and importance of every Democrat to go to the polls and cast his vote, and stated that if they failed to do so, they might have cause to regret it when it would be too late to remedy their remissness, and now hundreds of Democrats in this county suffer such unavailing regret.

Condensed from "Forest and Stream."

"The Forest Waters The Farm" is the title of a famous French book which has been translated, and is published by Forest and Stream, New York. It is designed as a text-book for the first principles of common sense in relation to preserving woodlands as reservoirs to water the farm. The story of the work is furnished by the authors of Forest and Stream, and is a description of forest-taming in France.

The editor of the London Fishing Gazette communicates to Forest and Stream the purpose to erect a statue to Isak Walton in the Winchester Cathedral which is undergoing repairs. The Dean has promised to appropriate a niche for that purpose.

"The Virginia Field Sports Association" organized at Richmond, October 21st, is notified in the last issue. The membership is one hundred and fifty and increasing. It should become a permanent institution.

Mr. R. G. Dun, of New York, at the head of the celebrated Commercial Agency, is a noted angler, and with the fly has drawn in hundreds of large salmon, but his latest and most remarkable success was the capture of one which weighed fifty-four pounds. The red used on the occasion was a split bamboo fifteen and a half feet long, and was a No. 2 oiled silk with a single gut.

Mr. Ernest Wiman of the same firm in the champion wolf-hunter in Canada, who he shot four in less than five minutes, time.

SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.—This venerable ecclesiastical body met in the First Presbyterian Church of Richmond on yesterday, and the opening sermon was delivered by the opening Moderator, Rev. Jas. P. Smith, D. D.

This Synod is composed of ten Presbyteries, representing 23 ministers, 16 locusts, 62 candidates, 350 churches, 1,169 ruling elders, 821 deacons, and 24,541 Sunday-school teachers and scholars. During the past ecclesiastical year, 2,426 were added to its churches on examination and 888 by certificate. The total membership is 28,414.

During the year the churches of this Synod have given liberally to all the leading schemes of benevolence, as the following figures will show:—viz.: For sustenance, \$16,895; evangelistic work, \$7,824; invalid fund, \$3,948; foreign missions, \$16,782; education, \$6,334; public, \$2,445; Theological Institute, \$1,000; presbytery, \$2,728; pastors' salaries, \$121,143; congregational, \$75,521, and miscellaneous, \$12,922.

LIVED EIGHT MONTHS WITH A BROKEN NECK.—Mr. George W. Davis, the Norfolk machinist who died on Sunday last in Baltimore from paralysis, superinduced by a injury of the spinal column, was buried yesterday. The doctors deemed Davis, an extraordinary one from the fact that he lived eight months with neck broken, and they decided upon a post-mortem, which was made. The examination revealed a fracture of the third cervical vertebra. Mr. Davis's injury was caused by a fall of about ten feet during last March, which incapacitated him from work but a short time, although he was continually in pain. He was to Baltimore six weeks ago, and paralysis gradually set in, the pain meanwhile increasing in intensity up to the time of his death.

HOW IT CAME ABOUT!

In speaking of the defeat of the Democrats in the elections on the 2nd inst., the Norfolk Landmark says that the defeat has been nothing like the "tidal wave" which electrified the country during the second term of General Grant. The Republicans recovered from that, and the chance for a redemption of the fortunes of Democracy is by no means as desperate as was the chance before the Virginia elections of that date.

The losses in Virginia of those, however, which chiefly concern us. It would be folly to underestimate them, or to shut our eyes to the possible consequences. In order to comprehend the situation as it stands, and to pluck the "flower safety from the nettle danger" we must examine the facts, as far as we can, and deal with these in a spirit of candor.

According to our judgment the defeat of Mr. BARBODER was the beginning of Democratic demoralization. It inflamed a severe shock on our organization, and left us, as far as we have been able to see, without that touch of the elbow which we had before that unexpected event took place.

To this cause we have to add the dissatisfaction of great numbers of our people at the extended application of "civil service reform." Under this use of the law the President has retained in office numbers of persons who had rendered themselves obnoxious by reason of their department. In the nature of things he could not be informed of all the facts in such cases, and the result has been that in very many localities men are still in office, under the President's own rulings, ought to have gone out. Yes, men are still in the enjoyment of offices and emoluments who have shown on frequent occasions that they did not regard a "public office as a public trust," and who are known to have been deep and active in the intrigues of the Mahone-Republican party in this State.

It may not be a very lofty or commendable standard of patriotism which makes Democratic voters stay at home when the polls are open, because of their dissatisfaction at such things as we have recited; but the facts of human nature are those with which we have to deal, and in accordance with these, great numbers of Democrats retired in disgust from the ballot-boxes on the 24 of this month.

This is the chief reason, we believe, which explains why the complexion of our election was what it was. It has changed, but there are some other things which should not be overlooked. By a strange inconsistency the labor movements thus far have been in opposition to the Democratic party, which is par excellence the poor man's friend. In the Lynchburg District this helped to lose us one seat, and came near losing us the seat still held by Mr. Wise.

Then the tariff came in, and personal quarrels damaged us in another case; none of which, we think, could have been avoided had the Democratic masses been aroused, and in the contest heart and soul, and they were when they treated the Legislature from Mahone.

The milk, however, is spilt, and the question now is how we can keep the bucket from being kicked over again in our State election.

Can this be done? After due reflection we answer yes. When Governor LEE was elected, he stated that if they failed to do so, they might have cause to regret it when it would be too late to remedy their remissness, and now hundreds of Democrats in this county suffer such unavailing regret.

THE CAMPAIGN OF HENRY GEORGE.—In speaking of the large vote received by Henry George, the Labor candidate for Mayor of New York, who, though defeated by Hewitt, the Democratic candidate, received more than 100,000 votes, the Republican candidate, the Baltimore Sun says:—

"This New York demonstration of the strength of the labor vote will encourage it elsewhere. No one can complain that the labor vote is not a potent factor in the career, moved by a desire to have its wrongs considered and redressed. It is the legitimate method pointed out by our institutions and the standards of the Republic, and it is only by the use of this method that we can get our people in hand, and to bring out the voters in the next State election for the safety of the State. They draw the distinction between a national election, which they wisely think they can afford to lose, and a State election, which they know demands their care; and it is for this reason that we say our present defeat need in no way imperil our domestic interests."

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FIRE IN CHARLESTON, W. VA.—On last Sunday morning, the residence of Hon. W. A. Quarrier in Charleston, W. Va., was burned. It had been a noted mansion for generous hospitality for over half a century, and in the Quarrier family, and many regrets are expressed at its owner's loss.

The dwelling was covered with an insurance of \$30,000, the furniture with \$1,000. The loss will exceed this several hundred dollars.

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KING OF GROUND-HOGS.—Last Wednesday, Mr. Peter Hill of Pocahontas county, brought to the city a specimen of a ground-hog captured last August on Rush Run in the south-western part of Pocahontas, by a young man named Charles Morrison, Jr., which he had shot with a rifle. From each jaw project a couple of curved tusks four or five inches long, and the skull is usually five inches long, and must have attained a patriarchal age. This interesting relic is worthy of a place in some museum.—Worcester (W. Va.) News.

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ANOTHER SHAKE.

An Earthquake Shock which Revives fresh Fears.

BUILDINGS AND OFFICES DESERTED—PUBLIC SCHOOLS HURRIEDLY DISMISSED—NO SERIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 5.—The shock at 12:35 P. M. on Monday, was a severe one, and continued, in the opinion of many, longer than any since the great earthquake of August 31. The shock was accompanied by a loud rumbling noise, and was treated with much excitement and alarm. Many buildings and offices were deserted for the moment. At 1:30 P. M., no damage to persons or property has been reported.

During the earthquake shock which occurred here on Monday, the 5th inst., at 12:35 o'clock, all of the public schools were in session. At most of the white schools the scholars stood the shock pretty well, but at several of the colored schools the panic took place. At the Bethel Church colored school during the rush which was made for the door, three scholars were thrown down and trampled upon, and a little girl who jumped out of the window was seriously injured. In another of the colored schools the roof fell in, and several scholars were injured by falling plastering, none of the injured, however, were fatally hurt. The disturbance to-day was very severe at Summersville, where the shock was felt throughout the State. The late telegraphic advice State that it was also felt far South as Savannah, Ga., and far North as New York, and one or two of the public schools narrowly escaped a panic. In this city no serious damage was done, but the cracking of a few brick walls and the tumbling down of a few chimneys. To-day's shock is variously estimated at from 35 to 40 seconds in duration. The direction of the wave was from South to North and the motion was a compound character up and down, and from East to West. It is stated that there has been no interruption to business in consequence of to-day's disturbance, there is manifested a very general feeling of relief, and the case during the two weeks ago. No further shocks to 9:30 P. M. The fear of this morning of a rise in the level of the sea, which was the cause of the panic, is now entirely abandoned.

DETROIT, Michigan, Nov. 5.—At 11:28 the city was again severely shaken by the shocks of earthquakes felt in this city. It was the most terrible one ever felt here.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Nov. 5.—At twelve o'clock P. M. a severe shock was felt here, which was entirely unexpected, and created general consternation. The business houses did not deem their notes necessary, and great excitement prevailed among the public school children and some of the teachers. The schools were dismissed, and the streets thronged with children hurrying to their homes, many of them crying. Buildings were roughly shaken and many articles were thrown down. The shock was also felt at Thunderbolt, a suburban place four miles from the city, and the residents report that it was felt in the same manner as the shock here, resembling that caused by a passing steamer, which lasted several minutes. There was a slight shock at 11:28, and the people here were settled in the belief that their shakes were over and consequently were more startled than on the occasion of the other shocks.

REICHMOND, Va., Nov.—Quits a severe earthquake shock which lasted several seconds was felt here about 12:30 P. M. Shocks of greater or less severity were reported from several points in Southern Virginia, at Charleston, at Savannah and Allanta, Lynchburg, Virginia.

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THE VOTE OF AUGUSTA COUNTY.

Those who jump to the conclusion that reform received a black eye Tuesday should recall the circumstances of Mr. Cleveland's election, and consider whether Johnson's victory would now be any democratic administration at all to condemn! The adoption of the principle of universal suffrage by a candidate whose official life gave force and vitality to the party professions, was the one occasion when the democratic party of this State, and the expectations of the masses upon what General Grant had declared to be his certainty to blunder. It did not blunder then, and it would not blunder now. If the party were to turn back to the fish tails of the old "poils system," and falsify all the promises of its platform, it would be a more certain defeat, and what is worse, it would deserve defeat.

We confidently believe that the forthcoming election, under the various departments of the government will disclose a purer and more business-like administration of affairs at Washington than has been known for fifty years past. Admittedly, too, after only sixteen months control of the reins of government, the country has prospered, and there has been no destruction of trade relations, no derangement of trade relations, and no impairment of the public credit, as the republican party had predicted. It is by no means the economical administration, but has proved brave enough to disregard the rebubbling jeer, and to do justice to the soul as a component part of the whole country, and its various departments. The most economy has been exercised without detriment to the public service. All these things, and many more, will be set forth in our account against the miserable cry of the place-seeker and the public blunderer, who would have good, honest and efficient office-holders removed on the miserable plea that to voters belong the spoils! The people, of course, are the real victors, but these post-hoc politicians by a juggle of words try to make it appear that they are the people. Business principles in the business affairs of the government is the essence of the reform to which Mr. Cleveland's administration is unreservedly committed, and there will be no deviation from it, we predict.—Index-Appal.

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DEATH OF F. M. STROTHER.—Rev. Frank Montgomery Strother, who was minister in charge of the First Baptist Church last year until his declining health forced him to close his labors, died at his home at Markham, Fauquier county, Va., last Friday, of consumption. Mr. Strother left his family at his home, and after visiting his home for a brief season, was advised by his physician to go to California in hope of the change of climate benefiting his health. Acting on this advice he went to Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, Cal., stopping at each place a short time. His long journey, however, was fruitless. In a letter dated at Santa Barbara, May 12, 1886, to the wife he said: "I hope that my physician will help me. If it does not by September, then I shall return home to die." The disease, however, did not disturb him. It is one of the inevitable ills, and I give myself no concern about it. It is all right; let the termination be what it may. I am fully assured of a future life, and a higher, purer and better life than this one." Our valued friend has gone to his reward, and his family and friends will miss his presence here who sincerely mourn his loss. Peace to his ashes.—Fincastle Herald, Nov. 4th.

ABOUT CLIVERUS.—The clerk of the Hastings Court delivered to City Sergeant Smith the order of the court directing him to hang Thomas J. Cliverus on the 10th of December, and Sergeant Smith has accepted of the same.

The City Sergeant has not yet made any preparation for the execution of the order, and he will not do so until he has ascertained what the Governor will do with the petition to be presented in behalf of Cliverus. If this petition is not presented to the Governor until the very last moment, the City Sergeant will have to make arrangements for carrying out the order of the court, and he will be forced to do so.

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