

ELECTION ECHOES.

The Closing In of the Heats of Protection and Tariff Reform for Final Battle.

How Some Great Papers Discuss the Result and the Consequences to Follow.

TARIFF REFORM IN CONGRESS.

New York Times (Ind. Rep.)

It appears to us that some of the friends of tariff reform are unduly discouraged by the results of the late congressional elections, and too ready to infer that nothing will be done for the reform of the tariff in the next congress. The most important feature of the elections, or at least the one that attracts the most attention, is the defeat of Col. Morrison in Illinois and the narrow escape from defeat of Mr. Carlisle in Kentucky. The latter had nothing to do with the views of Mr. Carlisle on politics, and was as nearly as anything in politics to be a pure accident. The defeat of Mr. Morrison was mainly on the issue of protection, but it is to be noted, in the first place, that his opponents had to take a candidate who was by no means a representative of extreme protectionism, and in the next place they had to make use of the Knights of Labor organization in the district, which was influenced only indirectly, if at all, by the tariff views of Col. Morrison. Had the gentlemen of the Iron and Steel association chosen to spend enough money, and had they worked as shrewdly and unscrupulously with the labor vote, they might have defeated Mr. Cox in this city or Mr. Belmont on Long Island. They concentrated their efforts on Mr. Morrison and accomplished their purpose. They were aided, moreover, by some peculiarities in Mr. Morrison's own record, to which we have alluded elsewhere.

More significant, though less conspicuous, is the Democratic loss in Virginia and the tendency shown very generally by Democratic candidates like Vance, in the First Connecticut district, to court the protectionist vote. But these indications are very much more than offset by the victories won by the revenue reformers in Massachusetts, where the issue was definitely made. And in these latter contests it is to be noted that the protection "humbler," as Henry George calls it, did not have the strength it was supposed to have among the workmen of the factory towns. On the contrary, whenever the question was openly and clearly argued before them voters of this class showed no special inclination toward protection. In the Northwest, in Minnesota and Nebraska, where the Democrats have made gains, it is worthy of attention that the Republican candidates were either revenue reformers, so that the issue was not raised at all, or that where it was raised the protectionists and the worst of it. It is, therefore, a perfectly reasonable inference that so far as the next congress is influenced by public opinion as to the reform of the tariff, it will be inclined more toward reform than the present congress has been.

But there is another fact that must be borne in mind, which is that it is now almost certain that there will be a large surplus that cannot be used in reduction of the debt, and that can be avoided only by a reduction of taxation. This may, and we believe will, have a great influence with public opinion. The people of the United States are not given to voting on abstract issues. They never have done it, save in the case of the limitation of slavery, and that was an exception more apparent than real. They have too much of the English political temper to be seduced into regulating their political action by ideal or by sentimental considerations. But when that action is called out by matters of direct practical interest, it is apt to be very energetic, and, for the purpose of a reduction of the debt, the people come to a realization of the fact that money is being taken out of their pockets for no good use, which must either be squandered in extravagant appropriations or heaped up in the treasury, they will take prompt measures to see that taxation is reduced. And when it comes to a question whether taxes shall be taken off from liquors and tobacco, or from the materials of manufacture, the choice will not be doubtful or long delayed. If the case shall be presented in this way, as there is every reason to think that it will be, tariff reform will come about with a certainty that will surprise good many theorists on both sides of the question.

PRECEDENTS FOR IT.

Chicago Herald (Ind.) The defeat of Morrison and Hurd and the opposition to Carlisle, Holman and Springer, which was so unexpectedly strong as to reduce their majorities to the narrowest limits, have naturally caused these gentlemen much bitterness. Knowing that they were secretly and corruptly assailed by paid agents of the monopolies, against whose encroachments they had defended the people, they regard with chagrin and dismay the ease with which the element which they had faithfully served was turned upon them.

But this has been the history of the world, the fate of all pioneers in movements for the amelioration of the condition of men, and the inevitable consequence of attacks upon the power of wealth and greed. The historian of the British parliament observes that the rule has never failed in that body. The men who side with monopoly and error gain distinction and praise and are everywhere accorded the highest commendation for their abilities, patriotism and statesmanship. The men who attack these unjust combinations, and who, in the people's behalf, point out the injurious effects of monopoly, or they ever so honest, able, unselfish and patriotic, do not escape the shafts of ridicule or the bludgeons of violence too often aimed at them by the very class which it is their ambition to serve. A casual glance at the history of our own congress will show that the same thing has been and is true as to that. John Randolph once said that he might as well attempt to preach Christianity in Constantinople as to speak against the United States bank in congress, so eminent respectability had the moneyed interest which was entrenched behind that monopoly made the service of defending it. Later on it was the same with slavery. The men who attacked it were looked upon with contempt, while the most ordinary defender of the system passed as a great statesman, and his sheepest witlings and most fallacious arguments were hailed by the masses as evidence of the profoundest wisdom. So now, with reference to the admitted abuses of the day, the protected industries, the gigantic monopolies, the

remorseless business combinations, the land and cattle rings, and the hatched conspiracies of old political organizations; the men who question their propriety are, as a rule, condemned and laughed at, while their thick-and-thin defenders of the Bismarck variety pass as wise beyond their day and generation.

In the days of the Roman republic the privileged classes who were attacked by Tiberius Gracchus hired a band of assassins from the ranks of the people in whose defense that great leader spoke, and he and his associates fell under the daggers thus wielded. With the death of the Gracchi perished the Roman republic. In our own time we see popular leaders secretly destroyed, not by murder, it is true, but by the corrupt use of money. The monopolists of Rome defended themselves and crushed opposition by hiring their own dupes to use the dagger. The monopolists of America have defended themselves and attempted to crush their opponents by hiring their dupes to use the ballot.

How long is such assendency to last?

THE COMING REVENUE CRISIS.

Louisville Courier-Journal (Dem.) A revenue reform crisis is about to be precipitated upon the country by the stern and unanswerable logic of the process of facts without the need of any help from verbal argument. This power is to come from the relative positions of the revenues, the treasury, and the money markets, and no man or combination of men can stay it. The excessive revenues collected for the purpose of sustaining the present excessively high tariff are running at more than a million dollars a day, and are creating a surplus of more than a \$100,000,000 a year. In about four months the last expedient to pay out the accumulating surplus of hoarded currency taken out of trade will have been exhausted by the final payment of all the redeemable debt. There will then be no alternative until 1891 between two expedients—either the cutting down of the revenues by lowering tariff taxes, or by a profligate and ruinous system of public expenditure and waste, based on the unheeded and thoroughly flimsy theory and purpose of spending, any way and any how, upward of a hundred millions of unnecessary and superfluous taxes, wrung from the toll and sweat of the people. There is no other horn to the dilemma, and the people should look it squarely in the face—it is to be either a curtailment of a hundred million dollars of unnecessary taxation or an expansion by over a hundred millions in the unnecessary expenditures of the public service. There can be no possible middle ground, and the issue cannot be delayed. It is right before us, and look at it as we may it will be really a crisis of the first magnitude in the administration of the government. Managed aright it will be a blessing, but managed wrong it will introduce us to a first-class commercial and industrial crisis.

LOST DEMOCRATIC LEADERS.

Philadelphia Press (Rep.) It is now certain that if the official returns give the Democrats a majority in the next house of representatives it will be a small one only. This is an unfortunate position for a party to occupy so poorly trained and disciplined as the Democratic party is, and it would doubtless prefer to find itself in the minority. If a number of able and skillful Democratic leaders had been chosen, and the party was united on a definite policy, the size of the majority would not be a matter of so much importance. But, unfortunately, most of the old and trained parliamentarians on the Democratic side in the present house will be absent from the Fifty-third congress, and the party is hopelessly divided on all the chief issues of the hour.

Mr. Hewitt leaves congress for the majority of New York city. Mr. Curtin of Pennsylvania, Randolph Tucker of Virginia, Warner of Ohio, Cox of North Carolina, Alken of South Carolina, Hammond of Georgia, Willis of Kentucky, Dragg of Wisconsin and Singleton of Mississippi, either failed to get or refused to take a renomination, while Cabell of Virginia, Morrison of Illinois, and Lowry of Indiana, were defeated, and Speaker Carlisle, if successful, approached so near to the brink of defeat as to be sadly weakened in influence. The only men elected who are fitted by training and ability, to replace these leaders are Cox of New York, Randall and Buckalew of Pennsylvania, and perhaps one or two others. It is evident, therefore, that the Democratic side will be sadly crippled just when it needs strong leadership the most.

On the other hand, if the Republicans are placed in the minority they will lack for trained and experienced leaders. Nearly all the able debaters and parliamentarians on the Republican side of the present house have been returned and their hands will be strengthened by new members who, in a smaller field, have proved their fitness for legislation. Reed, of Maine; Long, of Massachusetts; Hilscock, of New York; Phelps, of New Jersey; Kelly, of Pennsylvania; Butterworth and McKiuley of Ohio have been re-elected; while Lodge of Massachusetts, S. V. White of New York, Kennedy and Fogaley of Ohio are among the strong new members chosen. The Republicans, then, are certain of having competent leaders, and with their better discipline and general higher average of intelligence they will form a compact and influential body of legislators, and able at least to prevent the Democrats from accomplishing much mischief.

MORRISON BEATEN.

New York Star, (Dem.) The defeat of Morrison was brought about by the Eastern protectionists. They sent an agent into his district to address the workmen, and gave him an ample supply of money to buy those whom his arguments did not convince. But, already those who planned this plot and carried it to success begin to doubt whether their victory will be of any value to them.

For twenty-five years the protectionists have had their own way. They have been able to maintain a system of taxation out of which they made great profits. Taxes have been levied, not for the purpose of meeting the necessities of the government, but to raise the prices of commodities so that the manufacture of them should be profitable.

How large the sum is which has been taken from the people in addition to the revenue which the government needed, it is not easy to ascertain. Those competent to judge have estimated it at not less than a thousand millions per annum. This flagitious system of taxation has been defended on the ground that it was for the benefit of the workman. Those who were the chief sufferers from it were thus persuaded to be its chief defenders. But the most effective aid which the

protectionists have had has been found in the popular indifference to the subject. For more than twenty years those who saw the truth have found it impossible to get the attention of their countrymen. All parties have avoided the issue, the Republicans from a desire that the people should not be awakened, the Democrats by reason of a not unattractive reluctance to meet the perils of a doubtful contest.

The revenue reformers have longed for an opportunity to present the question of the tariff to the people. They have not misanderstood the responsibility which they were eager to assume. They know well how long and how difficult and doubtful the struggle must be. To enlighten the ignorant, and to overthrow a system which is supported by vast combinations of money, and by the prejudices of race as well as of class, is a task which no one will undervalue. But seeing clearly the truth of their own opinions, and also the monstrous and cruel injustice which protection works, and most of all upon those whom it pretends to benefit, the revenue reformers have long waited for the day which has come at last.

There is now no danger of further delays. There will be no dodging by conventions nor by congress. We will not hereafter bear much about equitable tariffs and incidental protection. At last there is a promise that the issue will be squarely joined between those who wish that taxes shall be levied for their profit, and those who are determined that all taxes shall be for public purposes only.

The defeat of Mr. Morrison is the greatest victory that our cause has won. It is the Bunker Hill of the new war of independence. A defeat, indeed! Our troops have retreated, and our leader lies upon the field! But the blow has been struck which begins the battle all along the line. Let no one be discouraged! The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.

A DRUGGIST'S VERDICT: "During 30 years drug business, never have I sold an article giving such universal satisfaction as Palmer's 'Skin-Success.' People who suffered for years with various skin complaints, are constantly returning perfectly cured to thank me for recommending 'Skin Success.'"—G. R. Harris, J. C. Heights, N. J., Druggists, Palmer Co., N. Y., 25 and 75 cents.

BAD FOR FOTHERINGHAM.

The Evidence Proves that the Messenger Was an Accessory.

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 11.—The evidence in the express robbery case as far as made public goes to prove that the messenger, David S. Fotheringham, was an accessory, or at least a willing victim in the affair. The discrepancies in his statement to the detectives indicates that he knows more of the manner in which the robbery was planned and executed than he would like to have them know. An expert penman who was before the grand jury last Saturday states that the three letters signed "Jim Cummings" were written by one and the same man, and expresses his belief that that man was Fotheringham, and that he wrote them before the commission of the robbery. It now transpires that the messenger's trunk was searched soon after the robbery, and a number of sheets of paper were found covered with copies of the signature of W. J. Barrett, manager of the express company. It is supposed that the messenger became able to forge this signature, so that he might mix it to the orders which the robber presented, and which allowed him to make the trip with the messenger. Of course, if the messenger was in the conspiracy, his accomplices could have entered the car any way, but the forged orders enabled the messenger to give the excuse that he did. Altogether, it looks bad for Fotheringham.

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ALABAMA FLOURISHING.

Notes From the Annual Meeting of Gov. O'Neal. MONTGOMERY, ALA., Nov. 11.—The legislature organized yesterday by the election of the officers chosen by the Democratic caucus. Gov. O'Neal's message was devoted entirely to state affairs. He called attention to the fact that Alabama devotes more than one-third of all the revenue she receives into the state treasury to public schools. He also referred to an increase of \$35,000,000 in the assessed value of the property of the state during the last few years. He said that the whole amount of the tax for the past fiscal year had been collected with the exception of \$50, a record perhaps unparalleled in the financial transactions of any state in the union. Every obligation of the state including interest on the bonded debt had been promptly met and the rate of tax reduced.

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A New Discovery in Bombs.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., Nov. 11.—J. D. Mollanoff, a Russian resident of this city, claims he has invented nitro-glycerine bombs. He says he has discovered a liquid with which nitro-glycerine may be mixed, making it non-explosive, but by adding another chemical the nitro-glycerine is transformed to its original state. He uses a double shell, the inside one containing the non-explosive mixture of nitro-glycerine, and the other one containing the chemical which liberates the pure nitro-glycerine. Maj.-Gen. Howard says the invention is worth looking into. Other officers have pronounced favorably upon it. The French minister of war has sent for details to experiment on the invention.

Black Goods.

Randall & Chambers Co. are displaying an unusually attractive line of fine black dress fabrics.

A Scheme to Pardon Fish.

AUBURN, N. Y., Nov. 11.—Dr. John C. Johnson, who was ex-Banker Fish's physician, called on James D. Fish yesterday, together with the prison physician, Dr. Hoxie. He made a medical examination of his former charge. Dr. Johnson stated to a reporter that Mr. Fish was in a deplorable physical and mental condition. Dr. Johnson's report will be incorporated in a petition to President Cleveland for Fish's pardon.

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Boodle Aldermen Fled Not Guilty.

NEW YORK, Nov. 11.—Jake Sharp, Jim Richmond, James W. Forsyah and Thomas B. Kerr, the boodle aldermen, in obedience to the summons served on them yesterday, appeared in the court of general sessions to-day, and, after obtaining leave to withdraw their plea if they so desired, pleaded not guilty to the charges in the indictments found against them.

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