

The New York World's "Lesson"

McClellan in 1864 polled 433,568 more votes than Douglas in 1860. Seymour in 1868 polled 900,890 more votes than McClellan in 1864. Greeley in 1872 polled 124,464 more votes than Seymour in 1868. Tilden in 1876 polled 1,450,806 more votes than Greeley in 1872. Hancock in 1880 polled 157,150 more votes than Tilden in 1876. Cleveland in 1884 polled 468,972 more votes than Hancock in 1880. Cleveland in 1888 polled 627,216 more votes than Cleveland in 1884. Cleveland in 1892 polled 18,685 more votes than Cleveland in 1888. Bryan in 1896 polled 946,007 more votes than Cleveland in 1892. Bryan in 1900 polled 144,792 fewer votes than Bryan in 1896. Parker in 1904 polled about 1,250,000 fewer votes than Bryan in 1900 nearly 1,500,000 fewer votes than Bryan in 1896, about 437,000 fewer votes than Cleveland in 1892, about 418,000 fewer votes than Cleveland in 1888, and only 200,000 more votes than Cleveland in 1884. A paltry 200,000 votes mark twenty years of Democratic progress, while Roosevelt in 1904 polled 2,379,000 more votes than Blaine in 1884. From 1860 to 1900 the Democratic party gained votes in every national election. In 1876, in 1884, in 1888 and in 1892 it polled a plurality of the popular vote, and in 1880 Hancock fell only 7,000 behind Garfield. The Republican party may have lost one election by refusing to yield to its Populistic elements. The Democratic party by yielding to these elements has lost three successive elections, and finds itself in the year of its alleged re-organization with the worst beaten candidate in its history. How far Judge Parker was responsible for this disaster is a matter of

conjecture. As The World intimated more than once, the Judge as a candidate for President left something to be desired. In spite of any clamor against a third term, it is apparent that Mr. Cleveland would have made a much better run. He would have polled thousands of independent and Republican votes in the east which Judge Parker did not get, and he could hardly have made a worse showing in the west. In addition to Judge Parker's own limitations, the character of some of his advisers made a heavy load of excess baggage for a tired and demoralized party to carry, but beyond all this was the inexorable law of political retribution. The slump really began in 1896, when the Democratic party openly surrendered to the Silver Republicans, the Populists and the advocates of wild-cat money in general. By their temporary help Bryan succeeded in sustaining the record of thirty-two years by polling more votes than his predecessor, but his gain was hardly 1,000,000 in an unprecedented total vote, while McKinley polled nearly 2,000,000 more than Harrison. This relative decline became real in 1900, when the Democratic vote showed an actual decrease for the first time since 1860. The tragical route of 1904 followed as a matter of course. For years the Democratic party has been playing with rotten money as a child plays with matches. Until 1896 its leaders had been able to hold the party somewhat in check whenever the issue became acute, but when the Chicago convention stampeded to free silver the way was opened for the avalanche of last November. By refusing to indorse unequivocally the gold standard in the St. Louis convention the party went just far

enough to alienate its Populistic allies, but not far enough to convince independents of its returning sanity. The economic sins of a whole generation of greenbackers and free-silverites have been visited upon Judge Parker. Strangely enough, with this lesson written so plainly that its meaning is unmistakable, there are Democrats who listen seriously to the demagogic counsel that the only way the Democratic party can win is to become crazier than it ever was before.—The New York World.

Burn's on Labor and Drink

Mr. John Burnes, M. P., addressed a large meeting in Manchester on "Labor and Drink." The lecture was one of the Lees and Roper memorial lectures. Mr. Burnes said that the drinking habits of the poorer classes had contributed to their political dependence, industrial bondage, civic inferiority, and domestic misery. As one bred to the matter as a county councillor and a legislator, he was convinced on the subject. He described the public house as the ante-chamber of the workhouse, the chapel of ease to the asylum, the rendezvous for the gambler, and the gathering ground for the goal. There was no comparison in drink. Dealing with the figures of the money spent in drink, while exploring the immense amount spent in every working family, he answered a recent critic by pointing out that two-thirds of the drink bill was spent by three-quarters of population, and only half the amount per head was taken by the working classes as was taken by the classes above them. But whether the expenditure was four pounds per family or fifteen pounds per family, working people could not afford it. As to drink and trade, he said that they were promised from 2 to 2 1-2 d. per family per week if they would tax bread from abroad. Why

not save 5s. per week by leaving off beer. Our expenditure handicapped us in the trade battle with Germany and America, because our larger consumption prevented us from spending as much money per head in other directions, and especially on education. He concluded a vigorous tirade against drink as the source of all evils by denying that poverty caused drink as much as drink caused poverty, and by declaring himself dead against municipalization as a remedy. It would cause drinking to become a civil virtue, and to be regarded as local patriotism.—London Times.

Split Electoral Votes

The national election was so one-sided this year that much attention has been attracted to the fact that in one state the electoral vote was split between Roosevelt and Parker. The incident has been discussed almost as a novelty, and yet it is in fact a common occurrence for a state to have its electoral vote divided. One newspaper writer who has been looking the matter up, at least so far as recent elections are concerned, has found that in 1896 Bryan was successful in securing one electoral vote out of the Kentucky landslide, and also received one from California. But in 1892 split electoral delegations were quite common, five states being found on the electoral fence. Ohio gave one vote for Cleveland and twenty-two for Harrison. California gave eight for Cleveland and one for Harrison. Michigan gave five for Cleveland and nine for Harrison. Oregon gave three for Harrison and one for the populist presidential candidate, General J. B. Weaver of Iowa. North Dakota's vote was evenly divided among the three tickets, one each for Cleveland, Harrison and Weaver. The fact that states so frequently split their electoral delegations seems

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