

# THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1905.

# VICTORY

## Democrats get Treasurer, Sheriff and Judge.

### Returns from all the Precincts Show Majorities for Quible, Simons and Judge Towne.

It's a fine old bird and he hasn't crowed so lustily in many a year.



The contest is over and those who care for post-mortems have no difficulty in finding a subject. When the campaign opened there were those who thought the democrats were leading a forlorn hope, nor were they confined to either party. Many democrats believing the claims of the opposition, that Cherry county was overwhelmingly republican, lost hope. Many republicans, misled by their own captains, believed the democratic organization dead and that the democrats were forming a funeral march. They were alike surprised at the result last Tuesday. They have found that in the democratic lexicon "there is no such word as fail" and that what they mistook for a funeral march was a triumphal procession.

What has brought about the change? There are a number of reasons.

In the first place, the republican majority has never been so large as the managers of the party have claimed. Every man who has watched conditions, know that the democrats were not satisfied with the work of the last democratic national convention. When the Wall street crowd got control of the national convention and nominated a candidate of their own choice, they did just what the republican bosses in Cherry county did this year—they alienated many of the most progressive and influential of their members. Many democrats went to the polls and voted the republican ticket; many others stayed to home. The result was a republican majority far in excess of the real party strength.

Failing to read the signs aright the local bosses concluded that the party majority was so great that they might disregard the wishes of the people in the selection of candidates. The result was that they made up a slate, nominated it, and, in effect, said to the party membership: "It is not your place to nominate a ticket. We will attend to all that. All we ask of you is to get out and vote your ticket, and vote it straight." The voter began to ask himself on what meat these bosses fed that they had grown so great. He talked it over with his neighbor; he concluded it was about time he was given a voice in the convention if he was expected to deliver his vote, and this led him to reflect upon the folly of blind partisanship and he blushed to think of the votes he had cast for unworthy men, simply because they were on his ticket. He then resolved to be a free citizen and not an asset of any political ring. He started out to act upon his own responsibility, as every man who has reached a majority ought to do. He found that the democrats had put up a ticket, every candidate on which, was a model of good citizenship, capable and worthy, and in greater degree than ever before he forgot party lines and voted his own honest sentiments. The result is told in the election returns. It is true we lost part of our ticket, but this is no reflection upon the candidates who failed.

Mr. Ward, our candidate for clerk, was pitted against the most popular man in the republican ranks. Mr. Keeley had the advantage of a wide acquaintance and of four years service as deputy clerk. Many democrats voted for Keeley because they were old friends, because they were pioneers together and it's hard to sever old ties. It was not because anyone questioned Mr. Ward's sterling worth. He did not have time to make a thorough canvass and enlist the workers in his behalf but wherever he went he made friends. His name gave strength to the ticket and his day will come.

Mrs. Cramer, too, was running against a strong opponent that had the advantage of possession, and "possession is nine points of the law." But the vote she got shows her popularity and is evidence of the fact that in an even contest she would have won.

Dr. Compton, Mr. McDaniel and Mr. Barnes, the candidates for coroner, surveyor and commissioner, each polled a strong vote and if the offices for which they were candidates were of sufficient

importance to have warranted them in making a canvass there is every reason to believe they would have been elected.

Judge Towne's election was conceded from the first. The only danger to him lay in the possibility that his friends might be overconfident, and, becoming interested in the sharper contests, fail to get him his vote. But it seems that his friends never forget him and he come through with a bigger majority than before.

The real fight was on sheriff and treasurer. For sheriff each party put up a competent, vigorous and aggressive candidate and for this office the fiercest fight was fought. Mr. Savage had the advantage in party strength, but Mr. Simons had the advantage of a united party, a long residence in the county and a wide circle of friends. In addition to this he has a genial personality and the happy faculty of making friends, accounts for his substantial majority.

The returns on treasurer show the election of Quible by one majority. When the campaign opened few people in the eastern half of the county had heard of Mr. Quible, but he was well known in the western part and it was here that he rolled up majorities never dreamed of before. Think of a democrat getting thirty-eight majority in Merriman precinct! We have been saying from week to week that where he was known party ties would be broken and his friends would attest his worth. The returns fulfill our prophesy. Study them for yourself.

Beyond settling the individual struggle for public favor the election is of the greatest importance. It puts an end to blind subservient partisanship. The vote given Quible by the republicans of Merriman and the precincts adjacent, and the vote given Keeley by the democrats at large shows that party lines are broken; that hereafter the people will have their way. Never again will a party organ publish the party majority of the year before as its leading editorial. Think of it! What an argument it was. "We have the votes. Look at our majority." We met this bluff and bluster with the statement that we had the men fitted for the places to be filled. That we had the men the people wanted. And the figures show that we were right.

THE DEMOCRAT rejoices with the people of Cherry county upon the election of a portion of the democratic candidates and believes that it was the will of people that such should be the case in this election. It was the vote of the people, regardless of party, that accomplished this result and that many more would have been independent voters this fall, we believe, had they not been importuned by over zealous party workers to "vote'er straight" and prejudiced by the thought of the opposition party being a common enemy to their party. The campaign just closed is creditable to the participants who conducted it and the result indicated by the votes show that it was in harmony with the wishes of the people. We claim no special tribute for our work in the campaign. In the past we have worked as faithfully but with less result. There are many reasons why this campaign was different from those in the past and no one man is entitled to the manipulation. It was the will of the people, assisted by organized and combined efforts in which hundreds have participated. Much credit is due to A. M. Morrissey, as chairman of the democratic county central committee, for the work done by him and under his direction, in placing the issue before the voters in such way as to antagonize no one and solicit the support of all, in friendly spirit, to support the democratic candidates, which was done in generous measure and for various reasons. We cannot thank the people for what they have done, nor condemn them for what they failed to do that would have pleased

us. They have simply performed a public duty creditably in which everyone was interested. The independent voting spirit should extend to active interest in good county officers, regardless of party. When this condition exists, elections will have their proper significance as the people's will.

## Election News.

Ohio goes 30,000 democratic. Tom Johnson re-elected mayor of Cleveland.

Brand Whitlock elected mayor of Toledo. Cincinnati also democratic.

Pennsylvania elected democratic state treasurer by over 100,000 and Philadelphia swept by democratic and peoples ticket.

New York City gives Mayor McClellan only 2,000 or 3,000 which may yet be taken from him in contested election by W. R. Hearst, also a democrat but on the municipal ownership ticket. District Attorney Jerome was re-elected on an independent ticket.

Cherry county elects democratic judge, sheriff and treasurer.

The state ticket goes republican by 30,000.

## SCHOOL NOTES.

By Margaret Quigley, Clara Dunham.

Frank West, of class of '05, was in town Saturday.

Howard Elliott, who fell and injured his eye, is in school again.

Joe Sparks was promoted Monday from the first to the second grade.

Clinton Shepard, who has had a felon on his finger, is back in school again.

Miss Nellie Collett of the class of '04, spent Saturday and Sunday in town visiting her parents.

Miss Grace Hobson, of class of '05, begins her school in Kewanee district Monday. We wish her success.

Miss Ora Hooper, of class of '05, was badly frightened the other day by a prairie fire that came within a half mile of her school house.

Several are out of school this week on account of sickness. Edith Adamson has typhoid fever, Swiss Savage is threatened with pneumonia and Ruth Stetter has a bad cold.

The foot ball game which occurred last Friday, between the Valentine and Chadron academy teams, was watched by a large crowd of people. The boys put up a good fight, though badly beaten, and they took it all in good part.

Miss Anna McKercher, who came from Lincoln to take Miss Mutz's place in the grammar room, began her work Monday morning. Miss Mutz left Saturday morning. We were sorry to see Miss Mutz leave but glad to welcome Miss McKercher.

The Niobrara school, which is taught by Miss Mary Grewe, has organized a literary society which is to meet once a week. Last Friday the question debated was: "Resolved, that the Party Man makes a Better Citizen than the Independent Voter." Mr. Adams took the affirmative and Mr. Crosby the negative. The negative won. Miss Grewe says she enjoys her school very much.

## A COMPARISON.

Pretty little streamlet  
Flows so merrily,  
On, on, to the ocean,  
Happy as can be.  
On through vale and meadow,  
Over rock and rill,  
Dancing through the shadow,  
Rushing down the hill.  
On it madly rushes  
Through every glen and dale,  
Over cliff it gushes,  
Onward through the vale.  
And so we find our life,  
From care and sorrow free,  
Ignorant of every strife,  
And full of mirth and glee.  
On through life we bravely tread,  
Finding joys and care,  
Over pain and strife we plod,  
But ever with a prayer,  
—ETHEL SHERMAN.

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