

A PROPHETIC VISION.

WALTER WELLMAN UNFOLDS THE FUTURE AS IT APPEARS TO HIM.

An Impartial Review of the Present Political Situation, with an Estimate of the Probable Results in November—Changed Conditions in the West and South.

[Special Correspondence.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—Who will win the presidency next month? Is it to be Cleveland or Harrison? The man does not live who is smart enough to tell before the votes are counted. He may think he knows, and may confidently assert his belief and give his reasons, but he is only guessing at it. As a rule the man who knows it all simply voices his wish in uttering his predictions.

There is lots of humbug in politics, but the biggest imposture is that which the rabid partisan puts upon himself. Because he is a Republican or a Democrat and wants Harrison or Cleveland elected, ergo his party is all perfection and prosperity, and his candidate is sure to win. Of course there are rational men who do not permit their party love to run away with their judgment—men who like to sit down and discuss the situation with calm judgment and clear discernment.

I take it for granted that you, reader, are this sort of a man. And having had better opportunities than some of you to know what is going on in the political world—having traveled during the last three weeks in New York, New England and four or five of the southern states—having met and talked with prominent and sensible men of both parties from all sections of the country—I want to give you my impressions as to the probable result of the great campaign. I shall do so very frankly.

I see no warrant for the belief that there is to be a tidal wave in any direction. Changes from one party to the other are always going on, but I see no more of them in this campaign than were seen in its predecessors. In my judgment the states which have heretofore been "close" will be "close" now. It is at the same time true that there is a much greater number of these "close" states than ever before.

In my last letter I gave the number of these doubtful states at eighteen, with 178 electoral votes. Now, with another week in which to gain information, I would add to rather than take from that list. This remarkable increase in the number of doubtful states over past campaigns is due principally to four causes—to wit:

First—General apathy among the voters of the north, producing a listless campaign, and due largely to the fact that both candidates are old, having run one of them once and the other twice already.

Second—Slow but steady growth of the tariff reform sentiment among the agriculturalists of the northwest and the town people of New England.

Third—The peculiar conditions existing in the south, where the Democratic party is dividing into factions and the white people into castes—poor whites against the aristocracy, and country people against town people—and where the rival castes are bidding for the colored vote because it holds the balance of power.

Fourth—Presence of a third party, which is weakening the Democrats in the south and the Republicans in the west, and which also, by means of fusion in various states, is upsetting party lines and the calculations of the politicians.

Reducing all these and other currents of public opinion to two, I think I can see a northern drift toward Democracy and a southern drift toward Republicanism. At the approaching election I expect to see a small break in the solidity of the Democratic south, and a corresponding break in the solidity of the Republican west. It is well that these threatened changes come, or promise to come, together. When they do come—and if they come not now they surely will in the near future—sectional lines will be obliterated, the country will become more truly national, and the tyrannical dominance of the Empire State in the national politics of both parties will reach an end—a result sincerely wished for by all patriotic men, irrespective of party affiliations.

In this letter I wish to discuss in detail some of the eighteen doubtful states. Connecticut is in my judgment the only doubtful state in New England. In Massachusetts there is an evident drift toward Democracy, but the change will not come this year. The reserve Republican vote is likely to be brought out, and I look to see the state go for Harrison by about 12,000 majority. New Hampshire is close, but probably safely Republican by from 2,000 to 4,000.

Connecticut is really doubtful. In 1880 Garfield carried it by 2,600, and though the Democrats have always won since that year their pluralities have been very slender—1,284 in 1884, 336 in 1888 and only 26 at the state election of 1890. This year the Republicans are perhaps stronger than usual, because the McKinley act helps the tobacco growers, and in a total vote of 153,000 I do not look for more than 500 plurality either way.

West Virginia is doubtful. Secretary Elkins is making the fight of his life there, the understanding being that he must win in order to maintain himself in the cabinet and to preserve his prestige in the party. Just now Elkins is out of favor with the party leaders, and he feels that nothing less than success in West Virginia will restore him to his place. Out of a total vote of 155,000 four years ago Cleveland had a plurality of 506. If he gets through this time with any sort of plurality he will be lucky.

Virginia would be more doubtful than it is if it were not for the intensity of the Democracy in that state. Virginia is Bourbon. White men who become Republicans are socially proscribed. A rich man, like Mahone, can endure ostracism, but poor men, like John Wise, have to give it up and go away to New York if they would make money in their professions. If Virginia Republicans had better leaders—leaders who could get along without quarreling with each other—and more courage in the face of the opposition I believe they could carry the state for Harrison. As it is, Cleveland will probably get Virginia by 8,000 or 10,000 votes.

North Carolina is very nearly a Republican state. In the western or mountain region many counties are Republican, and are not in close touch or sympathy with the people of the seaboard. At the last three presidential elections the Democrats have carried the state by 8,000, 17,000 and 13,000 respectively. This year the People's party is drawing some votes from the Democrats in the rural districts; but, odd as it may seem, many negroes are ready to vote for Cleveland. If the Republicans could hold the colored vote intact they might carry the state. Under the circumstances Cleveland's majority is likely to range from 5,000 to 12,000.

In my judgment Alabama is the only other southern state in which there is doubt. There the Democrats split in two factions, had a fierce contest last August over the governorship, and are now charging each other with frauds at the polls. Kolb, who was the bolting candidate for governor, is out against Cleveland. The Populists are bitter against all Democrats. With these two elements the Republicans have formed an alliance, and they will make a strong bid for the state. The Republican managers, alert to the opportunity presented in this state, are paying the campaign expenses of the third parties and of the bolting Democrats. Alabama's Democratic majority in a national election, on a full vote and fair count, is not more than 40,000, and it may be overturned next month. Whatever the August election may have been, I think the November election will be a fair one.

Illinois seems to be a doubtful state. The tariff issue is helping the Democrats a little among the farmers. The cities—which are Democratic, as are nearly all cities in the country—are growing in population, while the country is losing. Thus the increase of population in Chicago is about equal to the increase shown in ten years by the entire state. Four years ago Harrison beat Cleveland in Illinois 22,000 votes. In Chicago Harrison was nearly a thousand ahead.

Wisconsin is claimed as doubtful by the Democrats. Blaine carried the state by 15,000, Harrison by 21,000, but in 1890 the Democrats elected their governor by 28,000. The principal cause of this change and the chief influence upon which the Democrats rely for victory next month is a movement of German-American voters from the Republican party. These voters were first actuated by the school question, which has been a burning one in the state for several years, but it is now claimed they have so much admiration for Mr. Cleveland that they will be Democrats on national as well as state issues. I have not been in Wisconsin and cannot judge from personal observation.

Possibly Kansas and Nebraska will give their electoral votes to Weaver under the fusion plan. Colorado and Nevada are doubtful. Well informed politicians from the Pacific coast tell me California is in a peculiar condition, and that while Harrison would probably carry the state no one would be much surprised if it went the other way. My expectation is that California, Montana, the two Dakotas and Minnesota will go for Harrison.

New York and Indiana? Aye, there's the rub! For these traditionally doubtful commonwealths the fight is as usual a desperate one. As yet I have formed no opinion as to the result in these states beyond an impression that Harrison has a little the best of it so far in New York, while Cleveland is more likely to win in Indiana.

President Harrison could well afford to be courteous to his rival and throw his state for Mr. Cleveland if Mr. Cleveland would return the compliment by letting New York vote for Harrison.

WALTER WELLMAN.

Characteristics of the Chicagoans.

[Special Correspondence.]

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—The Chicagoan is social and has little "form" or vainglory. The streets are motley with all manner of raiment, but men are kinder and more civil than elsewhere. Doubtless this has come about from the Babylonish mixture of tongues and folk. People are in a hurry at Chicago, but they rarely push each other rudely. Women crowd on board a street car that has no vacant seats, and the men bury their faces deep in the daily news. Crowds gather about a turtle at a restaurant, and human curiosity is at its apex. A brass band is always welcome, and the poorer the better. The man who does not wear some kind of a button badge is regarded with suspicion as being a member of some very secret society. A well to do man who does not belong to a building association, a political club, a trade league, an insurance lodge, three social clubs and a church is shirking the average responsibilities of Chicago life. Duplicate whist is fastened well upon the town and follows progressive euchre as cholera follows grip. The mature Chicago man, however, is the opposite of Chicago in temperament. The city is forever agog.

The successful average citizen loves to sit on his doorstep in summer and smoke his pipe. He waters his grass; he reads his newspaper with a fidelity worthy of an editor. Occasionally he sits down and criticises his editor, or, more often, helps his editor in the "roasting" of a neighbor. He takes a little stock in the fair, but lets the rich men run that matter, for he knows they have never yet failed. He is critical and cynical, for he does not think things in general are going exactly right, yet the fair directors have spent ten millions, and no question of their good intentions in all things has come to the surface.

JOHN MCGOVERN.

COLUMBUS DAY.

Practical Suggestions on the Proper Observance of the Anniversary.



OCTOBER 21 will be a gala day from one end to the other of the United States, and it is but proper that it should be so, for is it not Columbus Day, and will it not commemorate the discovery of a world which in the comparatively short time of four centuries has emerged from the blackness of the forest and the ignorance of the savage into the blazing sun of prosperity and the noontide of intelligence?

Now that the official programme for the uniform popular celebration of Columbus Day has been published, the question of the participation by this community in the national exercises becomes a live issue.

It goes without saying that the people of this locality will not be backward in evidencing their patriotism by an appropriate celebration of the memorable day, and a few suggestions as to the best method of executing this commendable design may not be amiss at this time.

In the first place, it should be borne in mind that it is intended that the school children should be the principal participants in the exercises. The pupils are to be at their places in school at 9 o'clock as usual. It is desirable that business be entirely suspended so that the relatives of the pupils may also be present. Printed programmes should be provided when possible, and the exercises will of course be subject to the limitations of the scholars, but everything which may be done should tend to the central ideas of Columbus achievement and the remarkable progress of the country under the impetus of education. Appropriate patriotic decorations are necessary, and allegorical tableaux will add greatly to the effectiveness and enjoyment of the exercises. Music is also desirable.

In the afternoon comes the citizens' celebration, but, as in the morning exercises, the school children should take the most prominent part. Of course in the country districts this will not be the case, and the afternoon should be devoted to games for the young people and social gatherings for their elders, though every house should be decorated with the national colors. In the towns the afternoon should be devoted to some sort of formal celebration, in which all of the civic and military organizations should be invited to participate.

A review of school children after they have reached the reviewing stand and saluted the flag will add much to the "life and color" of the scene. A mass meeting of the citizens should follow during the day, when the best orators of the locality, and the most eloquent of the declaimers among the children—say one from each school—might deliver addresses appropriate to the occasion. The topics of these speeches will readily suggest themselves, but it must be borne in mind that anything relating to Columbus will be more interesting than anything else on such an occasion. The flag salute, the ode and the patriotic songs should be executed by the children without a hitch, and for this reason a great deal of preliminary work will have to be done by them.

Upon the school teachers will devolve the greatest portion of this labor. Each teacher should at once, if it has not already been done, present the matter of the celebration of Columbus Day to his pupils, and it should be laid before the young people in such a manner that each will be anxious to contribute as much as possible to the success of the affair. Enthusiasm is what is wanted and needed, for without it failure must result. Let each teacher select committees on reception, on decorations, on exercises, on printing, on newspapers, on arrangements and on finance. The principal must be actually if not nominally the directing spirit of each committee.

At the morning exercises at the schools the veterans should have charge of the flag and should also act as guards of honor to the schools on the march to the reviewing stand. The peculiar appropriateness of the veterans being the special patrons of the school celebration is apparent. Money and the active co-operation of the citizens at large are absolutely necessary to the success of the celebration, and these should and probably will be promptly forthcoming.

Only the general outlines of exercises suggested in the official programme are here given. These may be enlarged or contracted to conform to the wishes and possibilities of the celebrants.

The Wife of Columbus.

What about Mrs. Columbus? She ought to figure somehow in the celebration, although there is no picture of her extant. She was a Miss Palestrello, of Lisbon, and became the wife of Columbus in 1470. Her father was a navigator, and from old Palestrello's charts Columbus got his first ideas about a western passage to the Indies.

Better Usual.

Merritt—You shouldn't have told Brown that the garden plot was trimmed just right.

In Training.

"Has young Skipout had much experience in athletics, Bob?"

Bob—Oh, yes; he has been jumping his board bills for months.—Chicago Inter Ocean

What He Had to Face.

"Twas mid-light as he passed along
The city's silent street;
All over were the feet and song—
Alas! cart's joys are fleet.
Now filled with misery was his cup,
Filled to the very brim;
He knew his wife was waiting up
For him."
—New York Press.

A PROGRESSIVE WOMAN.

How Mrs. Carolyn Ober is Solving the Problems of Life.

[Special Correspondence.]
SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 8.—It is not often that a writer has the satisfaction of seeing the first edition of her book sold within ten days of its issue, yet such is the decidedly pleasant, if somewhat novel, experience enjoyed by Mrs. Carolyn Ober.

Mrs. Ober was born in New York state, near Ogdensburg, but when only three years old accompanied her parents to Wisconsin. Both before and after her marriage she traveled constantly in the United States and in Europe until a sudden loss of fortune compelled her to turn her attention to some method of earning her livelihood.

She has always been a member of various women's clubs—social, educational and industrial—and a thorough believer in the efficacy of organized effort.

In addition to many other talents Mrs. Ober is endowed with the gift of oratory, and is frequently invited to address different organizations, both of men and women. Her manner in speaking is entirely free from emotionalism and her aim is to convince by clear and logical reasoning rather than to dazzle with rhetorical fireworks. Her subjects



CAROLYN OBER.

are always treated from the scientific standpoint, never from the sentimental and it is probably owing to this that men invariably listen to her with the greatest attention and her opinions are treated with respect.

While engaged in solving the problem of making a living Mrs. Ober perceived that there were a number of women with what might be called some small talents of one sort or another, who though quite capable of doing some one thing well, yet were unable to earn their daily bread because there was no means of bringing them into contact with those who desired such services. So this clear headed woman established a club or association which was known as the Ladies' Chaperon bureau, which undertook to supply well informed guides and chaperons to ladies traveling alone. They engaged to meet their patrons at the trains and to take them to the theaters, museums and art galleries. They also supplied readers, darners and plain sewers by the hour. By ladies schools and seminaries they were frequently employed to take the older pupils to concerts or lectures, and on their books as references they had such names as Chauncey M. Depew, the Villards, etc. But Mrs. Ober broke down under the too constant strain and was compelled to give up all work and take a long rest.

For over five years she was president of the Society for Political Study in New York. The aim of this society is unique. The promoters, while being earnest advocates of the extension of the franchise to women, believe that the best way to attain this end is to fit themselves to receive and exercise intelligently the right to cast a vote. At the meetings of the association, to whose membership women of all ages, from the gray haired matron to the girl in her teens, are admitted, such topics are discussed as bimetalism, comparative history, constitutional and parliamentary procedure and all the questions of the day. The educational value of these associations Mrs. Ober considers almost incalculable, and she has in the past devoted and is now devoting much time and energy to arousing the interest of women in the great issues of the hour.

In appearance she is tall and graceful, and has the easy, charming manner of a woman who has traveled and seen much.

At present Mrs. Ober is fitting herself to fill a chair in the faculty of the College of Social Economics. She is also engaged upon a philosophical novel, in which she intends to propound a number of social reforms.

HELEN E. GREGORY-FLESHER.

Mother's Debts to Their Daughters.
Were it not for their daughters thousands of mothers would scarcely ever be able to go outside the house for an evening's pleasure or change of scene. Mothers are under great and many obligations to their girls, many of which are entirely overlooked and remembered only when their daughters belong to some one else.

The average girl returns from school almost as neat and prim as she left home. As a rule she does not climb trees, tumble into rivers, play truant or give her mother hours of work repairing injured garments; on the contrary, she is a distinct help to her mother. There is the baby to mind, the things to iron, antimacassars, stockings and a host of other articles to make and mend, to say nothing about messages to run and numerous other ways of relieving her mother of household duties.—London Tit-Bits.

Barred Out.
I cannot sing the old songs,
Although I know a few,
And people must use up my guns
When I attempt the new.
—Fremont (Neb.) Tribune.

How much pain must the child suffer when she is compelled by the force of her own better judgment to conceal from her mother her highest aspirations and efforts!

\$50,000.00 TO LOAN

At six per cent. per annum and a cash commission or at eight per cent, no commission, for periods of three or five years on well located improved real estate in Lincoln or Lancaster county.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON SAVINGS DEPOSITS DEPOSITORS HAVE ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

UNION SAVINGS BANK,

111 South Tenth Street

Industrial Savings Bank

ELEVENTH AND N STREETS.

Capital stock, \$250,000. Liability of Stockholders \$500,000

INTEREST PAID N DEPOSITORS,

WM. STULL, Pres. J. E. HILL, Vice-Pres. LOUIS STULL, Cashier.

DIRECTORS.—D E Thompson, C E Montgomery, Geo H. Hastings, H H Shaberg, W H Mercerey, J C Allen, T E Sanders, J E Hill, Wm Stull, Louis Stull, Geo A Mohrenstecher

MUSIC FOR CONCERTS RECEPTIONS DANCES, ETC.
IRVINE'S ORCHESTRA
D. C. Irvine, Director
After ten years of active work with the Musical Union Orchestra, of Omaha, as Director, during which time the above Orchestra furnished music for all the prominent events, social, theatrical, etc., I come to Lincoln to engage personally in Orchestra business, feeling confident that I can furnish its citizens with the best of music at any and all times. For terms and information, call at office of CAPITAL CITY COURIER, 131 N Street, or Telephone 251.

Finest in the City
THE NEW LINCOLN STABLES.

HAVING just assumed personal control of my handsome new stables, it will be my aim to conduct a first-class establishment, giving best of care and attention to horses entrusted to our keeping.

STYLISH & CARRIAGES.

Single or double, and a fine line of well-trained horses for livery use, furnished, day or night.

DAVE FITZGERALD, Prop.
FRANK RAMSEY, Foreman. Telephone 550
Stables 1639 and 1641 O Street.

FOLSOM'S
ICE & CREAM
HAS NO EQUAL.

Our Parlors are the handsomest and coolest in the city. Fine line of Confectionery and Bakery Goods always fresh.

Sunday Orders Promptly Delivered.
Telephone 501. 1307 O Street.

Western Normal College
Lincoln, Neb

An Old School in a New Location.
Ninth Year. 25 Departments. 30 Teachers

Beautiful, healthy location, magnificent buildings, fine equipments, superior accommodations, strong faculty, comprehensive curriculum, thorough work, high moral and christian influences and low expenses make this

The SCHOOL FOR THE MASSES

A practical education without needless waste of time or money is furnished by the Western Normal College

You can Enter any Time and Choose Your Studies

This great school is located in Hawthorne, three miles southwest of the post office and will be connected by electric street car line. YOUR CAR FARE PAID. In order that all may see our many advantages in the way of buildings, equipments, faculty, etc we will pay your car fare from your home to Lincoln provided you are present on the opening day of the fall term, Sept. 1892. Write for particulars.

Send name and address of 25 young people and we will send you choice of the 15-inch ruler, 1-ounce meter or year's subscription to our illustrated educational monthly. CATALOGUES AND CIRCULARS, FREE. Address W. M. CROAN, Pres. or WESTERN NORMAL COLLEGE, Lincoln, Neb. J. KINSLEY, Faculty and Treasurer.