

heard in his own defense, before the injured party had proffered any charges, are due to what? Telepathy?

But until further information reaches us we are not going to chant the requiem of any legitimate democratic aspirant, either in one flat with the New York Sun, in two flats with Joline, or three flats with those influences which by methods insidious and subtle are striving to disrupt the democratic party.

Atlanta Journal: There is nothing, so far as we can see, in the Harper's Weekly episode, now the topic of so much political small talk, that should shake the confidence or esteem which any fair minded democrat may entertain toward Woodrow Wilson. Indeed, the facts in the case, as thus far presented, would seem only to indicate the thorough going sincerity and independence of Governor Wilson to heighten rather than diminish his claim to public and party respect.

Philadelphia Record: Governor Wilson might have temporized and thus saved himself from Col. Watterson's disparaging criticism of his statesmanship. But it would seem fairer to give the governor credit for his uncompromising honesty. Had the governor been a coarse-grained demagogue he might have tried to make political capital by denouncing the damaging friendship of Harper's Weekly from the house-tops. That he preferred to make the undesirability of the support of that journal known in a private interview indicates kindly and gentlemanly, rather than ungenerous, im-

pulses. . . . We don't see how an unpleasant fact could have been communicated in a manner more considerate than this was—although Col. Watterson mistook the governor's embarrassment for austerity and an "autocratic, if not tyrannous, manner."

Far be it from us to attempt to decide the many and complex questions which this episode raises; we do not know who was wholly right or who was wholly wrong, or even if anybody was; our only desire is to call attention to the number and the complexity of the questions, and to suggest the wisdom of suspending judgment, of delaying harsh criticism of any of the gentlemen concerned until the whole affair is clearer than it is now.

Nashville Tennessean: This incident will probably serve as a signal for opening the floodgates of "pitiless publicity" against the man who has the courage at all times and under all circumstances to give expression to his convictions. Faded personal letters and musty records will now be brought forth to discredit a man who stands pre-eminently above his detractors as a bold and able champion of popular rights. Without disparagement to the other excellent and able aspirants for the presidency, it will not be amiss to state an obvious fact—that is, it is now a fight of the whole field against Woodrow Wilson.

Washington Star: If things are exactly what they seem, we have in this affair something unusual. The grooming of Woodrow Wilson for a political career was accounted at the start a Wall street maneuver. As a disciple of Mr. Cleveland and one who had both spoken and written severely against Mr. Bryan and Brvanism, he was suggested for leader of forces to turn the democracy back to its old camping ground. But, instead, as soon as installed in office at Trenton, with Washington looming up, he went over body and breeches to Brvanism, and talks more radically today than Mr. Bryan himself. A more complete change was never made by a man seeking high political office in this country. It has cost him heavily in the east. Will his break with Col. Harvey, for the reason assigned, injure him in the south and west? A tip on that point should soon be forthcoming.

Atlanta Constitution: For the close friendship existing between the men, for the fact that Col. Harvey, of all men in America, has a prior lien upon the gratitude and confidence of Governor Wilson, it is to be hoped the report will in some manner prove to be a mistake. By whatever motives actuated, from whatever source advised, Governor Wilson can be left in none other than an extremely unpleasant light by the status as it now exists, and as created upon his own initiative.

Minneapolis Journal: It was a practical question, as is shown by Watterson's having carried the suggestion to both Wilson and Harvey. Why, then, should a practical answer cause such Wattersonian grief?

Governor Wilson apparently is suffering all the evil effects of being frank and ingenuous. Did he apply for a Carnegie pension? Yes, he did, and he didn't see why he shouldn't. He believed that under the rules he was entitled to the benefits of the foundation for the advancement of teaching. Did he write a letter to Mr. Joline about Col. Bryan? No squirming or twisting, but a simple avowal that he did. Was Harvey's support a source of weakness in some places? It was. Harvey knew it. Harvey knew that

Wilson knew it. Then why not say it?

If we cannot commend the tact of these replies, we must give due applause to their candor, and we must admit that, if Woodrow Wilson is a new kind of character in American politics, he is also a refreshing kind.

There appears to be a deadset in certain democratic quarters to "get" Wilson. This is in some sort a confession that he is the leading candidate.

Milwaukee Journal: Col. Watterson knew that Harper's was hurting Wilson; Col. Harvey suspected it; but the governor ought to have said, "Not at all, George; it's just what I like. I'd rather stay on the editorial page of Harper's than go to the White house any day."

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