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Hanna is claiming all the glory of the republican victory in Ohio, but the glory does not belong to him at all. It belongs to the gold democrats. That is to say, it was a victory for the McLeanites and the Clevelandites.

Partisan insanity makes men who suffer from it forget personal honor and common decency, and induces men, sane on other subjects, to support corporations that rob them every day in the year, including election day.

Bradstreet says that the failures in the United States for the week ending with November 5 were 216. Dun says they were 246. Neither of them give the amounts, at least the western dailies do not publish the amounts. As to how many millions were involved we are left in the dark.

The Independent wishes to thank Mr. John D. Edwards of St. Louis and several other ladies and gentlemen for sending to the editor valuable clippings from magazines, and domestic and foreign papers which had escaped the editor's notice. All these ladies and gentlemen are all helping to edit The Independent.

The New York World, in speaking of democratic candidates for the presidency, says: "As matters stand today with the democratic party it is Cleveland first and the others nowhere." The World comes to that conclusion after taking a look at the election returns from Ohio and New York city.

The Denver News says that "Congressman McClellan, the newly chosen mayor of New York, is a man of ability." On what does the News base that statement? Does being a cypher in congress for several years establish a reputation for ability? If it does, there are several hundred great men in this country of whom the people have never heard, born, as it were, to waste their sweetness on the desert air, as the poet expressed it.

Chancellor Andrews said to the editor the other day that he had lost a fortune by not following the advice of The Independent and selling steel common short when it was quoted at about forty. The editor told the chancellor that he still had a chance, for steel common then was selling at 13 1/4 and he could still sell short and win. The chancellor did not take this advice either and now he has lost another fortune, for steel common has been done to 10 since then. If he keeps on losing fortunes at that rate, what will happen to the Nebraska state university?

**THE RECENT ELECTIONS**

Standing on the banks of the Missouri river at some favored point, the water seems hurriedly, but peacefully, rushing on toward the sea. The next day we may come to the same point and instead of a river we find a huge sand-bar and no water at all except far away in the distance. A dam has been constructed by unseen hands in a single night. But the Missouri river still flows on to the sea. So it is with the evolution of man. So it is with the progress with reform. It may be turned aside. It may be checked for a time, but onward it ever goes.

Mark Hanna built a dam across the onward movement when he planned to capture the press of the United States. The rising waters pressed heavily against it in the campaigns of 1896 and 1900. Many times it appeared that it was giving away, but it held. Since then the waters have somewhat subsided, but the day is coming when the waters will press against it with uncontrollable force and the structure will fall. The demand for information comes from every direction. Lulled to quietness by a little relief from republican-Cleveland soup house distress, the people have allowed plutocracy to gain another victory and upon the heels of that victory will come more extortion and robbery of the toiling masses. That is what plutocracy fought for, and to the victor belongs the spoils.

The result of the elections in Ohio and New York, not to say anything about Iowa, shows conclusively that what The Independent has been saying for a year or more is true, namely, that the democratic party could not be made a reform party. Even Mr. Bryan seems to abandon the hope of such a consummation, for he says in The Commoner: "The plutocratic element of the party deserted and ever since that time has been plotting against the party. It threatens defeat if its dictation is resisted and is powerless to give victory when the party yields to its demands."

That both of the old parties are now regarded as assets of plutocracy is shown in everything that has been written and said by the political leaders and writers since the election. Those parties are to be used by aggregated capital to further its ends. The trusts and millionaires are planning to get the next president and it does not make a particle of difference to them whether that president is a republican or democrat.

It seems from all that can be gathered that an effort will be made in the republican party to nominate Mark Hanna or some man of his sort. If Roosevelt secures the nomination, then all of the Wall street millions will be thrown to the support of the democratic party, for every one now concedes that the next democratic nominee will be a Wall street man.

All that means that there is going to be a great breaking up of party lines in the near future. The day of bi-party government is nearing its end. There will be in the future in the United States, as there has been for a long time, more than two powerful parties in Germany, France and to some extent in England.

That being the case the wisdom of the calling of the Denver conference and the action there taken becomes apparent. The thing for populists now to do is to go on with their work of organization in every state in the Union. The prospect now is that the party will cast many more votes in 1904 than it ever polled before. There will be hundreds of thousands of men, in both the democratic and republican parties, seeking new political affiliations after the coming panic.

The plan of plutocracy to hold the government will be, in the future as in the past, to keep the voters in ignorance by controlling the press. There are millions of voters who today do not know the meaning of the word "ratio" or that the republican party has coined millions upon mil-

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lions of silver since it came back to power. The hope of reform is in extending the circulation of the populist press.

**PARKS AND PAUPERS**

The bureau of statistics at Washington was run during the campaign largely as the literary bureau of the republican campaign committees. Now the agricultural department has started out as a literary bureau to extol the trust magnates and their wives. Bulletin No. 42 of the agricultural department is largely made up of a report concerning how Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan is going to run her Adirondack park of 1,500 acres. She has had the services of a scientific forester from the department. The report says that "the kind of forestry practiced in the park will be one shaped and adapted to the peculiar desires of the owner." The whole thing has been done for the benefit of the millionaires who are setting aside thousands of acres of what used to belong to the people and was used as a summer resort for all alike. Now the trust magnates fence it in with wire and put notices everywhere of "No Trespassing." That is exactly what has been done by the same class of plutocrats all over Europe. Tens of thousands of acres in deer parks and tens of thousands of people starving or supported by charity. It seems to The Independent that the government should be in better business than complimenting these plutocrats in government reports and putting the forestry experts, whose salaries are paid by the people, at their service. But we suppose that it is all right, as the people "vote 'er straight" for that sort of thing every time they get a chance.

**WHY THEY DIDN'T**

Many men ask why the Christian governments do not interfere and prevent the bloodshed in Macedonia. On what grounds, moral or ethical, could they interfere? Russia had been murdering the Jews, England the Boers, the United States the Filipinos, while Germany not long ago had a whack at the Poles, the Finns and the Chinese, and France at Madagascar. The Turk was only following. In a mild sort of a way, the example of the "Christian" nations. He could see no reason why a heathen might not do

what the Christians did. Can anybody else?

It is true that Russia might have said we have got through with murdering Jews; England, we have dispatched the Boers; France, we have disposed of the rebels in Madagascar; Teddy, we have water-cured the Filipinos and made their country "a howling wilderness," and now we will teach the Turk how to run a Christian government. The sultan would likely have replied: "I am doing the thing along the same lines. Just wait a bit and I will make Macedonia as much of a howling wilderness as the British did South Africa or Hell-Roaring Jake Smith did his department in the Philippines." What reply could have been made? Perhaps our imperialists could have replied: "Our way was benevolent assimilation and that makes all the difference in the world."

**ENGLAND AND AMERICA**

The conditions in England very much resemble those in this country and practically the people are living there along the same lines as in this country. The London News, in speaking of Chamberlain and his new tariff policy, says of him and his past policies: "We are faced with perils that threaten not only the existence of the empire, but the peace of the world. The dragon's teeth we sowed in South Africa have sprung up armed men, and all the evil influences in the national life have been loosened upon us. Fierce, unreasoning hatred of the foreigner, the sordid self-interest of the classes, the rapacity of landlordism, the deadly avarice of the drink traffic, contemptuous indifference to the moral obligations of the state—this is the foul brood that one mischievous man, with an unrivalled faculty for appealing to the basest instincts of men, has unchained."

Then, after a rapid glance at economic conditions in the country, the News adds: "Instead of protecting the trust-mongers we must assure to labor the restoration of the elementary rights which parliament gave and the courts took away, rights which masters enjoy and men must have."

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