



IT SHALL BE REBUILT —Denver News.

Anarchy

The dictionary defines anarchy as meaning, "without law or order," "lawlessness." The republican party has a record for anarchy that is unequalled by any political party in the history of the United States. It was by anarchy—lawlessness—that the republican party seated Rutherford B. Hayes president and defeated the will of the people who had rightfully elected Samuel J. Tilden. It was by anarchy—lawlessness—that the republicans with the co-operation of the republican end of the democratic party, defeated the will of the people in Nebraska who had elected John H. Powers governor. It is by anarchy—lawlessness—by the republican party in Colorado that they have defeated the will of the people who had rightfully elected Alva Adams governor. Unable to secure a majority in the legislature of their own party men sufficiently brutal and corrupt to unseat Adams and give the office to the notorious Peabody, the ingenuity of the republican leaders devised a method that for trickery and dishonesty has no parallel in recent times. In order to accomplish their purpose they were compelled to seat Peabody. They made him governor for ONE DAY, having previously required him to write out and sign a resignation to be filed after he had been seated as governor. By their refusal to declare Peabody elected governor previously, they had admitted his defeat. The legislature had no more right morally to make Peabody governor for one day than they had to make him governor for two years. If he was not elected governor it was as much anarchy to declare him elected governor for a day as it would have been to declare him governor for the entire term. It was lawlessness—*anarchy*—nothing less.

Peabody's resignation was filed and he was succeeded as governor by Lieutenant-Governor McDonald, a republican. We reproduce in this issue a cartoon from the Denver News of March 19. In the same issue, the editor of that paper says:

"To say that the temple of justice has been destroyed is hardly an overstatement. If it has not been destroyed it has been violated and defaced. To repair these damages and restore the sacred edifice to its pristine splendor is the task before the people. And it is a task which the News believes they will take up in deadly earnest and at which they will not cease to labor until it has been completed.

"As the political situation stands, both in Denver and in the state, half a dozen great and greedy corporations are in control. They have gained their power by fraud, coercion and corruption unparalleled. They have struck

down the constitution and defied the laws.

"Those of them which confine their operations to Denver and vicinity are making and expect to make tens of millions from public franchises. Those of them which operate throughout the state are making and expect to make many tens of millions by exploiting the natural resources at the minimum of cost to themselves.

"The Denver Tramway company last year earned a surplus of \$508,000 over and above all costs of operating expenses, interest and taxes. The sum is equal to more than 10 per cent upon a stock capitalization of \$5,000,000, which does not in fact represent one dollar of investment. The company now makes the public claim that it has a franchise unlimited as to time and that it may continue to earn 10 per cent, or 20 per cent, or 50 per cent, as the city grows, upon this watered stock for all time to come so long as there is a Denver. It relies upon its political power to maintain its claim to a perpetual franchise.

"The water company has just paid a dividend of 5 per cent upon a stock capitalization of \$7,500,000, not one dollar of which stands for an investment of actual cash, and its earnings are said to be sufficient to pay much more than that sum every year.

"The tramway and the water companies being closely allied, we have the spectacle of this single interest taking a profit of \$1,000,000 a year out of the people of Denver, solely as a result of monopoly and franchise grabbing, to be disbursed as dividends upon stock that was manufactured with no other cost than that of paper and ink.

"The Colorado Fuel and Iron company, the smelter trust and the Victor Fuel company are the three companies operating over a large extent of territory which are seeking to monopolize every form of metallic and non-metallic mineral production and treatment. Their methods are notorious. So far as they can do so the ballot is made worse than a mockery. Armed thugs control the elections in the coal camps, and returns are made with no reference to the wishes of voters. Hardly a section of the corrupt practices act is not violated by them at every election, yet because they own the machinery of pretended law in the counties involved they escape scot free.

"The profit reaped by such predatory concerns, when the people permit themselves to be robbed, may be judged from the quotations on smelter stock on the exchange yesterday. Preferred stock was quoted at 122 and common stock at 102. The amount of each kind of stock is \$50,000,000, making the market value of the stock over and above bonds, \$112,000,000. When the stock was originally issued the pre-

ferred was marketed at 110 and under, and the common stock was thrown in as a makeweight without any charge for it.

"During the time which has elapsed since election day the political complexion of the legislature and the person of the governor have been charged by agencies other than the will of the people as expressed at the ballot box. The first great change was wrought by the supreme court, which, in a contempt proceeding, declared that it possessed the authority to throw out entire precincts when a showing that some fraud had been committed was made in the precincts. The court did not unseal the numbers on the ballots, nor did it attempt to summon the voters and distinguish between good ballots and those alleged to be bad. It held that because the proceeding was not a contest it could not, under the law, unseal the ballots and thus reveal who cast them. It could not violate the secrecy of the ballot. The same law which provides that the ballots shall not be unsealed except in case of a contest, also provides that the ballot boxes shall not be opened except in case of contest. The court however opened the boxes and permitted the ballots to be scrutinized by pretended writing experts who gave testimony as wild, as foolish and as worthless as that which they gave later in the contest proceedings. It may be assumed that this expert testimony, since proven to be wholly without value, had weight with the court in ordering the summary exclusion of a number of precincts from the count and the disfranchisement of every honest voter in those precincts.

"The exclusion of these precincts had the effect of electing the three republican senators and the fifteen representatives who had been candidates for the legislature from Denver and the counties floated with it.

"Next came the jobbery executed under the order of the corporation bosses. A strange change in the returns from a Pueblo precinct, which change was received without question by the Peabody canvassing board composed of members of the late state administration, defeated Senator Martin, a democrat, and elected Senator McCarthy, a republican.

"Next the same Peabody canvassing board deliberately stole the seats of Senators Ward of Boulder and Beshear of Las Animas and gave them to Milard and Barela.

"Next the senate itself illegally expelled Senators Born and Healy on the pretext that the senate two years ago had unseated—in a perfectly legal manner—two republicans, pushing aside the fact that the house two years ago had first unseated six democratic members in the effort to create a majority to elect a republican United States senator.

"Having thus established a strong partisan majority in the legislature the Peabodyites lodged a contest against Governor Alva Adams. The evidence which was submitted during the hearing of the contest clearly proved that Peabody had no case and never thought he had a case, but relied solely on the partisan majority to seat him. It proved that Governor Adams, under an honest count had a larger instead of a smaller plurality than he received on the face of the returns.

"Yet after a long struggle the corporation influence, the influence of party bosses and of boodle, whipped enough members into line to steal the governorship for Peabody by a vote of 55 to 41—ten honest republicans vindicating their manhood by voting for Mr. Adams on the final ballot.

"Next came the working out of the disgraceful deal by which Peabody, the recipient of the stolen office, passed it along to Lieutenant Governor McDonald and retired repudiated and discredited.

"Everything that has taken place since the convening of the legislature illustrates the extraordinary and deadly power which the corporation bosses have gathered into their hands. They have grown so arrogant and daring that they feel they can defy public opinion and override the laws. They have not only stolen the governorship, but they have throttled every worthy measure presented in either house and will not permit any one of them to be passed.

"The political atmosphere in the state has been cleared by these events. Nothing remains to obscure the great issue which includes all lesser issues, and that issue is whether Colorado shall be run by its people for their benefit, or by the group of banded corporations for their benefit. The next two years will determine whether Colorado shall be placed in the class of states where the people have no voice, or be a free American commonwealth."

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The city of Pisagua, Chile, S. A., with a population of 20,000, has been abandoned by the inhabitants, owing to fear of bubonic plague from which several hundreds of people there have died.