

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

An Independent Journal, aiming to be JUST, IMPARTIAL, RELIABLE, NEWSY, seeking at all times to further the best interests of the people and Province, and recognized therefore as

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN.

WEDNESDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 9, 1904

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

What the people of the United States did yesterday was to elect the 476 members of the Electoral College, whose one function is to elect the President and Vice President of the United States. When the members of the Electoral College are chosen it is at once known whether one or the other party has triumphed.

As with us in Canada certain counties are always pretty sure to elect Liberals and certain other counties pretty sure to choose Conservative representatives, so it is with the States, most of which are known beforehand to stand in one or the other column. Fine, the "Solid South" as it is called was expected to go Democratic as it almost always does. It is made up of fourteen States with 159 electoral votes. These States are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

More than a like number of States may be usually set down as sure to fall into the Republican column. These are New England, Middle and Western States most of which were about as sure to support Roosevelt as Quebec is to support

Laurier. There were, on the eve of the election, three States distinctly in the doubtful column. These are Colorado, Delaware and Montana, with 11 electoral votes between them. Other States probably Republican but more or less doubtful were New York, Indiana, West Virginia and Idaho. On the other hand Maryland and Missouri, while probably Democratic were also more or less doubtful.

A few days ago a statement was put out by a leading Republican paper of Chicago giving 27 States with 303 electoral votes for Roosevelt and 15 States with 102 elec-

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toral votes for Parker. The successful candidate must needs receive 230 votes in the Electoral College, to give a majority. And it has been shown that if Parker were to receive the vote of the solid South with that of the four probably Republican States of New York, Indiana, West Virginia and Idaho, he would still be short of the required number.

As will be seen by our despatches on another page, that which was so generally expected has happened. The Republicans have won a sweeping victory and apparently have carried every doubtful State.

The Liberal party has its faults, but it is at least worthy of a better organ than it has in Charlottetown.

If we thought The Guardian had done half as much injury to the Liberal party as the city organ has done and is doing we should feel convicted of rank partisanship.

A party organ that has nothing better to do than reproach with base ingratitude the people among whom it chiefly circulates, and pick needless quarrels with the ever-growing class of citizens who choose to think for themselves, is worse than useless to any party and not much use otherwise.

The Patriot has two or three times asserted or insinuated that The Guardian said or predicted that the people of Canada were "overwhelmingly opposed to the Grand Trunk Pacific." What we did say was that the Government railway policy was distinctly unpopular in this Island. So it was and is. Let the Patriot make good if it can by honest quotations from our columns that we ever said the people of Canada were "overwhelmingly opposed to the Grand Trunk Pacific." It is a case of "put up or shut up."

Among the causes contributing to the Liberal defeat in Queen's County, and one freely spoken of by prominent Liberals of this city, was the weakness, and ill-nature of their party organ. Only yesterday two well known members of the party discussing the subject in The Guardian office summed up the situation thus: One remarked, "I never knew a political newspaper conducted with so little sense." The other said, "I'm disgusted. It's no good." If the bumptious editor would listen to what people are saying he would think less of himself.

AYLESWORTH MAY RUN FOR GASPE

MONTREAL, Nov. 6.—Honorable Mr. Lemieux, the solicitor general, already elected in Nicolet, has been elected by acclamation in Gaspé, where the polling was fixed for Dec. 5. It is reported here today that the solicitor general will sit for Nicolet and turn the Gaspé seat over to Mr. Aylesworth the new cabinet minister who was defeated in Durham, Ontario.

Recently during a trip to England a warm friendship was formed between Hon. Mr. Lemieux and Mr. Aylesworth and the former, it is said, suggested to Sir Wilfrid Laurier here Saturday the advisability of vacating the Gaspé seat for the new minister. Sir Wilfrid consented and now Mr. Aylesworth has the offer of a seat which is sure even if contested. It is also reported here that Sir Wilfrid will sit for Wright and allow another party man to run for the Quebec East seat, which gave the premier such a big majority.

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RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTS.

It has come down to us from the distant past as an inspired maxim that righteousness exalts a nation. Righteousness exalts the individual and the nation is but the total of individual's who make up its citizenship. All history and our daily observat on confirm the great truth that righteousness exalts. What was it that made Victoria revered, beloved, throughout her Empire and the world? What is it that gives to King Edward not only the loyal fealty of his subjects, good or bad, but the respect, honor and reverence of all? Is it not that his throne is established in righteousness and because we know that he administers his high office in justice, equity and for the highest good of his people and the world?

What is it that makes of our Supreme Court a true temple of justice, held in respect by all the people of the land? It is not that our Judges are perfect or infallible men. Nor was Queen Victoria, nor is King Edward perfect in wisdom. But we believe, that our Judges are learned men, capable of judging and that according to their best wisdom, without fear, favor or affection they decide the causes which come before them, regard less whether the suit be high or low, rich or poor, and according to the very right of the matter at issue.

We are about to elect a provincial Legislature which will hold its sittings close beside our Temple of Justice. The Legislature is one of our greatest institutions. It makes our laws; it is clothed with power to make and unmake governments. Not a dollar of taxes can be imposed, not a dollar of the people's money can be expended except by its mandate. It is the guardian of our liberties. It ought to give us good laws and just government according to the well-understood wishes of the people. The Legislature ought to be actuated by the same high principles of justice and righteousness as have for generations set the throne and the greater tribunals of justice so high as they stand today in the honor and respect of the people.

These are mere truisms, it may be said, but after all these are weighty matters. Everyone will admit that the Legislature ought to reflect in its dignity, its sense of right, and ought to be guided by the same high principles, as have in the past lent lustre to the sceptre of the Sovereign and the ermine of the Judge. But it is not, and we fear it is not, then it is for the people to raise the character of the Legislature by electing men of character to fill its seats. There are men of ability, integrity and honor still in the land. There are also self-seeking politicians, drunkards, men of the pot house, men who have no higher ambition than to gain something for themselves or secure a party triumph. It is for the people to choose. It is for the people to raise the Legislature to the dignity and the high standard which befits so important a body. Think of these things when you nominate your candidates. Think of them when you cast your votes.

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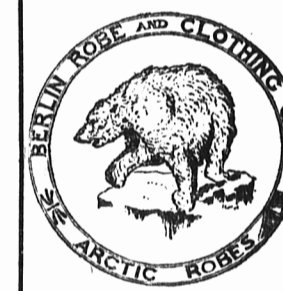
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