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VOTE BUYING IN DELAWARE

Lower Counties Flooded With New Notes From a Boston Bank—About the "Cashiers' Offices" — Layton Declares the Addicks Workers Stole Cash.

Below are parts of a copyrighted article which will appear in the February magazine number of the "Outlook" of New York. The article is called "holding up a state, or the true story of Addicks and Delaware, by George Kennan. Mr. Kennan is a noted author and writer and spent some time in Delaware right after the election, investigating the charges of the use of money.

Mr. Kennan says:

I shall try to describe what happened in the legislative campaign in 1902—that is, last fall; and I will begin with the notes of the Merchants' National Bank of Boston.

Two or three days before the November election, Mr. Addicks, or somebody acting in his interest, brought into the State of Delaware two whole series (fives and tens) of crisp, new, consecutively numbered notes of the Merchants' National Bank of Boston, and distributed them among the Union Republican workers in all the election districts of Kent and Sussex counties. Prior to the first of November there was not a single new, unworn bill of that bank in all southern Delaware; but five days later the two lower counties were flooded with them. On the day after election, C. W. Lord, a well-known hardware merchant of Dover, took in over the counter, in the ordinary course of business, twenty-eight of these bills, all of the denomination of five dollars, and before the end of the week the First National Bank of Dover was holding nearly five thousand dollars in this particular kind of currency, all crisp, new five or ten dollar notes that had never been creased, or that had been folded only once. Although the numbers of these notes were scattering, they were so distributed to show that two whole series had been used, and that the notes whose number were missing in one shop or one bank had merely been spent or deposited in another. More than a month after the election I myself obtained in Dover a lot of ten dollar notes of this bank, whose numbers ran from 33,414 to 34,691, showing the use of $12,779; and through the hands of a single business man in Milford there passed notes whose highest and lowest numbers indicated the distribution on election day of more than $20,000.

The buying of votes throughout southern Delaware, in last fall's election, was so open and so notorious that the local Addicks men did not think it worth while to make a secret of it, and the figures that I am about to quote were, in most cases, given by them to personal friends or intimate associates among the Democrats and Regulars. In the Camden precinct of the seventh Representative district of Kent county, the chief Addicks worker, whose name I have, bought more than 200 voters, including 130 negroes out of the 134 who were registered. The market price of the votes in the morning was $15, but it advanced to $25 later in the day. Five thousand dollars were sent there hurriedly in the afternoon, as a special emergency fund with which to buy votes for J. Frank Allee, the Addicks candidate for state senator in the Third Senatorial district, when it was found that he was running behind in Dover. The emergency fund saved him, but he had only 98 plurality. In the first precinct of the Ninth Representative district of Kent county 175 Union Republican votes were paid for out of 225, and in the Fifth Representative district of the same county the Addicks workers bought 89 votes at $30 apiece, and about 100 votes (of negroes) at $10 apiece.

In the second precinct of the Second Representative district of Sussex county (Northwest Fork hundred) the Addicks men spent between $9,000 and $10,000, and bought 307 of their 451 votes. In the northern part of Nanticoke hundred, Sussex county, they polled 158 votes, of which 140 votes were purchased. In the First Representative district of Sussex county (Cedar Creek hundred), they bought more than half their votes, including 258 negroes out of 260. In the Dagsboro hundred, Sussex county, all of the Union Republican votes were bought except 16. There are said to be less than 50 unpurchaseable voters in the whole Dagsboro hundred. In the Fifth Representative district of Sussex county (Little Creek hundred) the Addicks workers spent $5,700 and bought 407 votes. In the Fourth Representative district of the same county they spent $4,500 and bought 540 votes, as shown by their list.

Scores of Addicks workers have to be paid every year for their services; the "influence" of locally prominent men has to be bought—frequently at a high price—and large sums of money given to local managers for the purchase of votes are misappropriated or embezzled. In 1894, for example, Mr. Addicks, or an agent acting in his behalf, put into the hands of two workers in Gumboro, Sussex county county, the sum of $2,000 to be used in buying votes. The workers stole most of the money, and the election district went Democratic by 56 majority, although the corruption fund of the Democrats was only $275. It is a common practice. Futhermore, among Addicks workers to buy negro votes at the rate of $5 or $10 apiece, turn them in to Addicks at the rate of $15 or $20 apiece, and then pocket the difference between the real price paid and the listed price. Against fraud of this kind Mr. Addicks, of course, has no protection. There may be "honor among thieves;" but honor does not seem to be a characteristic of men who are hired to buy votes in Delaware; and although the employer may know that he is being robbed, he cannot prosecute the robber without admitting that he himself is particeps criminis. Dr. Layton told a friend in Dover, two years ago, that among the Addicks workers in Sussex county there was nobody whom he could trust with money. They all stole.

Making due allowance for cash misappropriated or embezzled, and for the expense of running the Delaware "machine," Mr. Addicks probably spent not less than $80,000 in Kent and Sussex counties last fall in the corruption of the electorate, and bought seven or eight thousand of the thirteen thousand votes polled for his legislative candidates. He now has twenty-one supporters in the Delaware Assembly, and is holding up the state as usual.

The New Arithmetic.

Harold has two rabbits and James has a black and tan dog. The dogs being put into the yard with the rabbits—But of course you know that there was only one left.

Three boys furnish the lemons, sugar and water to make a quart of lemonade and agree to divide it even up. James drinks first and passes the pitcher to John, and John—well, John didn't find any left. How many names did John and Peter call James?

A tramp has twelve feet the start of a woman who is armed with a broomstick six feet long. She moves eight feet while he moves six. How far must they run before she can get a fair whack at him?

A plumber charges an iceman with forty-five minutes' work at 50 cents an hour, and the iceman is short thirty-two pounds of ice at 75 cents a hundred. Who is ahead of the game and how much?

There are fourty yards of carpet to be beaten, and Henry beats one fourth of a yard per day and then gets the backache. At that rate how long will he be at the job and how many backaches will he haye?

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Small-pox and Jenner.

By C. E. A. Winslow.

Small-pox has been so held in check by vaccination that its horror is forgotten, and the number of thoughtless and misguided persons who are to-day unvaccinated threatens a serious menace to the public health. Two hundred years ago every one had small-pox, first or last, as children have measles to-day, those who escaped it one epidemic being almost certain to sicken in the next. From palace to hovel none were safe but those who had gone through the disease and recovered.

It has been made evident by calculations from the Bills of Mortality of the City of London, renowned for medical science, that at the beginning of the eighteenth century about one-fourteenth of the inhabitants died of small-pox, and during the last thirty years of that century, when the practice in small-pox was highly improved, the mortality of this disease has augmented to one tenth.

Medical skill and sanitary science were of no avail, until a village doctor, Edward Jenner, suggested the practice of vaccination, which seemed at the middle of the last century to be "the greatest physical good ever yet given by science to the world." It had long been observed among the dairy folk of Gloucestershire that a mild eruptive disease of cattle, known as cowpox, could be communicated to human beings, and that those thus affected were protected from subsequent attacks of small-pox. Jenner conceived the idea of applying this preventative inoculations with the cowpox on a larger scale; he tested its efficacy by careful experiments, and finally succeeded in convincing scientific men and the intelligent public that the dread disease could at last be conquered. All over the civilized world the new prophylactic was eagerly adopted, and everywhere it was followed by an abrupt decline in the small-pox death rate.—Atlantic Monthly.

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H. THEO. JEWELL, Clerk,
j31-tf.

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WM. C. SUTTON.
j24-4t.