

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13, '99. Although President McKinley and his leading spokesmen point to the result in Ohio as an unquestionable endorsement of the administration, the facts will not bear out this claim. The majority of the voters of Ohio refused to vote for endorsement of the leading policies of the Republican party, in a campaign fought exclusively upon them. In the total vote of the state, Nash stands first, with 435,000. This is not a majority of all. McLean received 385,000 and Jones 100,000. Together they polled 50,000 more than the administration candidate. The President's endorsement, therefore, comes from a minority of the people of his state.

There could be no doubt as to where the voters were placed in this campaign. The McLean platform declared: "We are radically and unalterably opposed to imperialism. We demand that the Cubans and Filipinos not only be permitted but encouraged to establish independent republics, deriving all of their governmental power from the consent of the governed." Jones, the independent candidate, made his campaign on lines even more strongly opposed to the administration. In nearly every speech made by him he denounced the "criminal aggression" of the Republican policy towards the Philippines. Reviewing the results after the election Mr. Jones said: "If my race has contributed in any way to a rebuke to the infamous Philippine policy of the administration, I feel that it has not been in vain."

To summarize the result in Ohio, therefore, 100,000 voters went to Jones as the most forcible means of expressing their opposition to McKinley, and 385,000 others selected McLean as the best means of showing distrust of the administration's candidate and policies. When to this is added the overwhelming repudiation of Hanna, identified with McKinley in every way possible, in Hanna's own county, it seems very clear that the endorsement of the administration was of a modified, not to say lame and deficient character.

General Henderson, of Iowa, who will be speaker of the next house, will reach Washington this week, and then his troubles will begin. Nine-tenths of the Republican members of the house who served in the last congress are dissatisfied with their committee assignments and want what they regard as more important places and better suited to their importance and deserts. Those who have served on minor committees will claim promotion and more important ones. A rush of members is expected within a few days, and the coming speaker hardly will be in town before his rooms at the Normandie hotel will be overflowing with statesmen anxious to place their services at the speaker's disposal, and begging that he will not underrate them. The making up of committees is a task of great difficulty and delicacy. Had Reed been disposed to remain in the house, he would have been re-elected without opposition, and with no promises to be redeemed as to chairmanships. Emerging from a contest, Speaker Henderson stands pledged to certain returns for work done by leaders in the various delegations. These gentlemen have good memories, and already they are on the way to claim promised rewards.

The new committees no doubt will be announced immediately after the opening of congress. The few weeks preceding will be devoted to the arduous and thankless labor of making schedules that will stand fire with the majority. It is not possible to satisfy all. The aim of Speaker Henderson will be to dispense as few as possible, and if he emerges from this work without causing fifty soreheads and latent enemies, he will be more fortunate than any of his predecessors.

The desks of the department officials, which accumulated dust during the absence of their occupants in the campaign, are assuming their usual appearance of activity. The majority of them were deserted for long periods during the exciting campaign in Ohio, Maryland and Kentucky, the officials having received urgent invitations, if not direct commands, to take off their coats and go to work for the Republican nominees. There is a difference of opinion as to whether the speeches of these officials do any real good in campaigns of their party. Many campaign managers think that speeches of men holding fat offices in Washington, in profuse defence and justification of the President who ap-

pointed them to their snug places, are as apt to fall upon unwelcome ears as well as upon responsive ones. They argue that the voters of the states are little influenced by federal officials, who speak from self interest, and that any good they might do, in the way of stirring up enthusiasm, is more than offset by the knowledge that the speaker is neglecting his work and spending time for which he is paid by the common treasury, seeking to carry elections by which he will personally profit in reappointment to office.

But the fact remains that the practice of ordering federal officials to take part in state campaigns has been carried further under the present administration than at any time in the past. Taking the results in the four states where these interlopers worked in the recent campaign, Ohio, Maryland, Kentucky and Nebraska, one can judge for himself as to the value of their services. Ohio barely held its normal Republican majority. Nebraska and Maryland made enormous Democratic gains, and Kentucky, yet in doubt, decided much in its own way, and following the judgment of its own citizens. This does not prove that federal official oratory is very potent in state elections.

STATE NEWS.

The smallpox situation at Roxboro is under control.

There are five cases of smallpox in Halifax county, all among colored people.

The Moravian congregation of the Salem celebrated its 128th anniversary last Sunday.

A new station on the Mocksville & Mooresville Railroad, in Iredell county, is to be called Sholey.

A rich deposit of plumbago has been discovered on a farm near Rutherfordford. It will be developed.

T. K. Bruner, secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, is collecting exhibits for the Paris exposition.

Gaston Love, a member of the board of commissioners of Alamance county, died of pneumonia last week.

The Raleigh Post says that Maj. H. L. Grant, of Goldsboro, is to succeed Mr. J. B. Fortune as clerk of the United States District and Circuit Courts at Raleigh.

The High Point Business Men's Association has appointed a committee to confer with the officials of the Seaboard Air Line relative to extending the road to that town.

Salisbury Daily Index: "Capt. J. T. Blair has a pig one-year-old which only weighs 2 1/2 pounds. The pig is quite a pet, and has an almost uncontrollable appetite, which neither causes it to fatten or grow."

The freight traffic on the main line of the Southern Railway is so heavy that crews from the western North Carolina division have been transferred temporarily to the main line to help handle the trains.

President Paul Kruger, of the Transvaal republic, is said to have been converted under the ministry of Rev. Daniel Lindley, who went from North Carolina as a missionary to the Zulus in 1834, laboring with them for 43 years.

The six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shuford Miller, of Iredell county, was burned to death one day last week. The little one's clothing caught fire, it is supposed from the fireplace, and before the flames could be extinguished the child was so badly burned that death followed.

The Commissioner of Agriculture is advised by the cattle owners in Clay county that they have formed a club to protect their territory from tick fever. They call on the state to forbid the entry of stock into Clay from Georgia and South Carolina at any and all seasons. The intensely cold weather last winter did not kill out the ticks.

The debts of the penitentiary up to December 31st last amount to \$100,000, and those contracted will be \$20,000. The last claims will have to wait until the Legislature provides for their payment, as under the Supreme court's decision they can't be paid out of the bond fund. The warrants for debts are now being allowed so as to conform to the court's decision.

The tobacco growers of the state are called to meet in Raleigh on December 6th to discuss their condition and to formulate some plan for the improvement of the same. Planters in every tobacco growing county are requested to form co-associations and send delegates, as many as they wish, to this convention. In counties where there is no local organization individual growers are urged to attend, so that if possible all the tobacco-growing sections of the state will be represented.

ELECTION RETURNS.

Republicans Make Gains in Ohio—Both Parties Claim Kentucky.

The election in Ohio on Tuesday of last week resulted in a greater victory for the Republicans than the first returns indicated. Judge Nash is elected governor by a plurality of about 50,000 and the legislature will be overwhelmingly Republican. The result has been a surprise even to the Republicans, few of whom expected their leading candidate's plurality to be so great. Judge Nash's plurality is about double that of Bushnell two years ago. It exceeds that of President McKinley three years ago, which was 48,494. The vote clearly indicates the Kurtz-Bushnell faction, which openly allied itself with the Democrats, has lost its power to influence elections.

"Golden Rule" Jones, the independent candidate, who was supported mainly by the labor element, carried Cuyahoga county, the home of Mark Hanna, and Lucas county, his own home. Jones drew more strength from the Democrats than from the Republicans, and this accounts for the increased Republican majority.

Nash carried his home county, although it is usually Democratic. McLean carried his home county, although it is usually Republican. Jones carried his home county, although it is strongly Republican. Even Hanna's own voting district, to say nothing of his city and county, went against him.

A confusion of claims and counter claims, to quiet which the official count or perhaps a contest before the legislature will be necessary, is the result of the election in Kentucky. Above it all, vehement cries of fraud, committed or contemplated, are heard. Each side claims the election of its ticket by a plurality of about 4,000, and presents figures to back up the claim. These figures in some counties vary widely and it is impossible to tell which side, if either, has accurate returns.

Latest indications are that Goebel and Blackburn are turning their attention to the legislature, intending to secure control there by contest, if necessary. Having the legislature, the governorship contest could result in but one way. The next legislature, it is likely, will be Democratic by a small majority, on the face of the returns. But there are 19 hold-over state senators, including two Republicans and five anti-Goebel Democrats, so the vote in joint session may be close in case of fusion against Goebel.

To meet the crisis the Republicans cannot appeal to the courts with hope of success, but they can appeal to force. That is what they intend to do, and it will be force of the state militia.

In Kentucky the governor takes office early in December, while the legislature does not meet until January. Governor Bradley announces, with emphasis, that Taylor will be sworn in as governor December 12, and that the Kentucky militia will be present "to see that order is maintained." The militia is officered by Republicans and is largely Republican in its personnel. As it will be under the command of Taylor after he has taken the oath of office, it can plainly be seen that the advantage will not be all with Goebel and his friends.

Unless Goebel or Taylor recedes from his present position a condition approaching anarchy seems likely to result. It is probable that conservatives on each side will exert such influence as to compel one or the other to accept defeat.

In Nebraska the fusionists claim a majority of from 12,000 to 15,000 over the Republicans. W. J. Bryan says the victory is a rebuke to the national administration. The Republican fight in this state was directed against Bryan, the Republicans making strenuous efforts to carry the state.

The Democrats made great gains in Maryland. Col. John Walter Smith's plurality over Governor Lowndes, the Republican candidate, being near 15,000. The Republicans carried only eight counties.

The Democrats elected 11 senators and 66 members of the house of delegates. The Republicans elected 3 senators and 25 delegates. In the senate, with the hold-over members, there will be 15 Democrats and 11 Republicans. The Democratic majority on joint ballot will be 45.

The Virginia Republicans elected only one state senator and six members of the house. The house will be composed of ninety-three regular Democrats, three independents, and four Republicans. Martin will secure the nomination in the party caucus for United States senator by a safe majority.

The Republicans carry New York state by a plurality of 4,854. Governor Roosevelt's plurality last

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