

MONTANA TAKE WARNING

DON'T MAKE B. PLATT CARPENTER A SENATOR.

REMEMBER THAT THOSE WHO TOUCH PITCH WILL BE DEFILED AND STUDY THE HISTORY HERE GIVEN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—So the Republicans really think of sending to the United States Senate from the rising young State of Montana ex-Gov. B. Platt Carpenter, formerly of Poughkeepsie, in the State of New-York.

What New-York politician who voted in 1882 would have thought it possible? In Montana, where they do not care much about the early political histories of the men who have come to the country to be decent private citizens, there is a good deal of pride in Statehood and a natural desire to be represented in Washington by men who can be depended upon to be faithful to their oath of office, their party, and their friends. If Montana should choose Carpenter under the impression that he is either of these things, it is perfectly evident that his history is not known, or that the Republican Party is in desperate straits for Senatorial timber.

The career of Carpenter in 1882 ought to be sufficient in itself to entitle him to the lasting resentment of the entire Republican Party in and out of Montana. During the early Fall of that year, when Chester A. Arthur was President and was beginning to indulge the hope of a renomination in 1884, the Republican voters of the State, not thoroughly pleased with the Administration, were choosing delegates to the State Convention that was to nominate a Governor. The popular feeling was for Cornell, who was about completing a term. The Administration was for Charles J. Folger, Secretary of the Treasury. The Administration people were determined to overcome the popularity of Cornell by any means at command. It had bold supporters, just as Cornell had warm and active friends.

B. Platt Carpenter was then of the State Committee. He enjoyed so much of the confidence of the Cornell men that he was in possession of the Cornell canvasses, showing that the Governor had a majority of the delegates. The convention met at Saratoga Sept. 20. On the night of the 19th the actions of Platt and the Dutchess County delegate began to arouse the concern of the Cornell men, who had already seen enough of the work of Arthur's friends to convince them that delegates would be bought at any price the Administration could pay.

The State Committee met early on the morning of the 20th. Carpenter, who had been a Cornell man up to the time the committee met, voted with the Arthur men for Senator Madden for Chairman. By the use of a forged telegraphic proxy the opponents of Cornell won in the organization. In the convention that followed a partial price for Carpenter's desertion of Cornell was paid. The Dutchess delegation, under the direction of Carpenter and Gen. Ketchum, voted for Folger, who was nominated on the second ballot by a small vote over Cornell. Carpenter was nominated for Lieutenant Governor.

The indignation that was visited upon Stephen B. French for personating W. B. Robertson upon a forged telegraphic dispatch was faint and insignificant compared with the execration of B. Platt Carpenter. Folger, then in declining health, was disposed to withdraw from the ticket in the face of the fearful storm, but Carpenter would have his pound of flesh and evidently hoped to win if he could only silence the criticism of the enraged Cornell supporters. Folger stood under the pressure of his confident friends. The election was held. Grover Cleveland was elected Governor by the unparalleled majority of 192,000, and B. Platt Carpenter was made to feel the scorn of New-York's Republicans by running behind Folger about 4,000 votes.

The Montana Republicans, who intend to send B. Platt Carpenter to Washington as Senator, ought to remember that this, his history, will probably be revealed with great minuteness many times during the term for which he may be chosen. The Democrats will look with interest upon the man by whose infidelity to his friends, his participation in the blackest political fraud in New-York's history, it became possible for them to secure a great President, while the contriver and abettor of the crime was spurned by his friends and party and flung off to be sent into exile as Governor of Montana by the President in whose waning cause he had enlisted. This appointment was always considered as his thirty pieces of silver.

This is the only intently interesting page in Carpenter's history. The Montana people ought to see that Col. Michael, the editor of the Congressional Directory, has the incidents and figures of the famous Folger-Carpenter campaign of 1882 properly set forth in that interesting work, and a large edition sent to the State of Montana to prepare the way for Carpenter's re-election in case he should happen to reach the Senate by some new form of political chicanery. It might be a mercy to him to keep him in Helena.

Carpenter has evidently forgotten his history, and again feels the hope that animated him in September, 1882, when he was a candidate, loathed and detested more heartily and unanimously than any other man who ever ran on a Republican ticket in any State or any contest.

The New York Times

Published: December 4, 1889

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