

prove to vary but little from the official returns. They sum up as follows:

McKinley (republican).....	182,485
Bryan (democrat).....	174,178
McKinley's plurality.....	8,307
Woolley (prohibitionist).....	2,330
Debs (social-democrat).....	5,073
Barker (populist, m. of r.).....	188

McKinley's majority..... 716

Since 1896 the city of Chicago has been territorially enlarged, but as the effect of that enlargement upon its voting population is slight the following comparison with the above returns may be fairly made:

McKinley's Chicago vote in 1896..	203,121
Bryan's Chicago vote in 1896...	145,329

McKinley's plurality ..... 57,792

Alschuler, the democratic candidate for governor of Illinois, though defeated in the state, has a plurality in Chicago of 13,549 and in Cook county of 5,064. Dr. Julia Holmes Smith, the democratic candidate for university trustee, an office for which women as well as men vote, has a plurality in Chicago of 10,126, and in Cook county of 1,664.

Unless the newspaper reports so far received turn out to be misleading, the next congress will be more strongly republican in both houses than the present one.

While the people of the United States were choosing their president for the next term, the people of Cuba, represented in the constitutional convention elected in September (see page 377), were beginning the work of forming an independent Cuban government. The convention assembled at Havana on the 5th, all the 31 delegates being present. Gen. Wood, American commander of the department of Cuba, had appointed a commission to arrange the initial ceremonies, and at two o'clock on the 5th he attended in person, with his staff, and as the representative of the president of the United States called the convention to order. In his speech Gen. Wood advised the convention that it would be its duty—"first of all to frame and adopt a constitution for Cuba," and, when that had been done, to formulate what "ought to be the relations between Cuba and the United States." He went on to direct that "the constitution must be adequate to secure stable, orderly and free government," and to give assurances that when the relations which the conven-

tion thought ought to exist between Cuba and the United States had been formulated by it, the government of the United States would "doubtless take such action on its part as shall lead to a final and authoritative agreement between the people of the two countries to the promotion of their common interests." In conclusion, Gen. Wood admonished the convention that it has "no authority to take part in the present government of the island." He appointed Senor Figueroa as temporary chairman, and the chief justice administered to the delegates an oath of office containing this concluding cause:

We publicly and solemnly renounce allegiance to or compact made with any state or nation, whether made directly or indirectly, swearing to the sovereignty of the free and independent people of Cuba, and swearing to respect the solution this convention may adopt, as well as the government established by the constitution.

The Puerto Rican elections were held on the 7th, the object being the election of the lower house of the legislature, to be organized under the act of congress of last spring. The election was carried overwhelmingly by the republicans, who are opposed to the American colonial policy. The opposing party, the federals, cast only 200 votes, whereas the republicans cast 75,000. The election passed off without the slightest disturbance. Gov. Allen reports it as evidence of the capacity of the people for self-government.

Canadian parliamentary elections followed close upon the presidential election in the United States. The Canadians voted on the 7th. There were 213 seats to fill, and nearly all were contested by the two leading parties—the conservative, under the leadership of Sir Charles Tupper, and the liberal, under the leadership of the present premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The issues were commercial, but both parties stood against free trade and for protection. As Goldwin Smith says, they were trying to crowd each other off the same platform. Reports so far received show a liberal plurality in the next house of commons of 47, as follows:

Province.	Lib.	Con.	Ind.
Ontario .....	35	50	3
Quebec .....	53	7	1
New Brunswick.....	9	5	..
Nova Scotia.....	15	5	..
Prince Edward's Island.....	4	1	..
Manitoba.....	2	2	2
North West Territories.....	1	1	..
British Columbia .....	1	2	..
Totals .....	120	73	6

British politics are quiet, nothing of general importance having come to public attention during the week except the approval by the queen of part of the new tory cabinet—

Lord Salisbury as premier and lord of the privy seal; the marquis of Lansdowne as secretary of state for foreign affairs; Mr. William St. John Broderick, as secretary of state for war; the earl of Selborne, as first lord of the admiralty; and Mr. C. T. Ritchie, as secretary of state for home affairs.

The London borough elections have been badly affected by the jingoism of the parliamentary elections that preceded them. These borough elections were the first held under the new system of London government. The city of London had been governed by vestries, a survival of the old parish system. When the London county council was formed, the vestries were restricted in their powers; but the council, with its single tax and kindred agitation, was much disliked by the tories, and to narrow its authority parliament divided London into boroughs with a separate mayor and council for each. The first election under this new arrangement came off last week, and the tories made the contest an imperial or "patriotic" one, appealing to the jingo sentiment in national politics and thereby defeating the progressive candidates with a sweep.

Although the tories promised the people of Great Britain that the war in the Transvaal would end as soon as the tory party had won the parliamentary elections, they have not yet been able to make their promise good. Another British disaster this week is to be added to those of last week. On the 28th a Boer force captured a British outpost of 90 men in the vicinity of Geneva; and on the 26th another force had captured a force of 30 British at Reddersfield. The Boers have suffered a defeat, however, near Parys, losing some of their guns. According to London reports, through the Associated Press, the British loss during the month of October was as follows:

Killed in action—men.....	152
Killed in action—officers.....	15
Died of wounds.....	71
Died of disease.....	367
Died of accidents.....	22
Captured .....	97

Total British casualties for Oct....724

The American war in the Philip-