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The check which Tom L. Johnson's programme of democratic Democracy met in Ohio on the 3d, over which every plutocrat in both parties from coast to coast is jubilant to-day, is nothing but a check, and a very temporary one at that.

"When do you intend to renew the fight?" Johnson was asked after the first dispiriting news had been confirmed on election night. "To-morrow!" he replied. And so it will be. Johnson, like Bryan, is enlisted for a war, not merely for a battle or two.

And no one could realize better than Johnson has realized all along, that not in one battle, nor in two, nor it may be in many, can a final victory in this irrepressible conflict between plutocracy and democracy be won. More than that, he has realized all along, no less clearly than in this hour of temporary defeat, that the final victory will be preceded by local and temporary defeats as well as local and temporary victories.

How could it be otherwise? The forces against which Johnson has contended and must yet contend, are not weak forces. If they were, they would have collapsed with Johnson's first splendid victories. But note how strong they are. First are the plutocrats of all political shades and conditions, from the millionaire monopolist to the "penniless plute." Then there are the political bosses and heelers of all parties and all grades, from bar-room loafer to senatorial grafter. Then there are the

bribed newspapers, little and big, which find their profits in fooling readers. And then there are the great thoughtless and bedeviled masses themselves, upon whom all these lions and jackals prey. It is these masses that must be reached with sound doctrine and honorable appeal, and thus drawn away from the "confidence" men who annually play off profitable buncombe games upon them in the name of patriotism and prosperity. The man who takes up as his life work the task of dealing with that situation, as Johnson has done, could not drop it if he would, merely because one of his earlier efforts fails.

Doubtless the one great force that operated against Johnson in Ohio last Tuesday was the hourly reiteration by hundreds of Republican speakers throughout Ohio, of the dire prediction that if Hanna were defeated hard times would come again, whereas Hanna would preserve prosperity. It is not complimentary to the intelligence of any voter to suspect him of being influenced by such transparent buncombe, but there is much reason to believe that scores of thousands of Ohio voters were so influenced. The fact that the legislature is even more overwhelmingly Republican than the popular vote for governor, confirms this view; for it was upon the legislature and not upon the popular vote that Hanna's election depended.

Nevertheless, something besides the "hard times" scare had much to do no doubt with the dispiriting result. The State was debauched with the largest campaign fund ever used in an Ohio election. This fund was contributed by the railroad, street car, public lighting, and other monopoly interests of the whole country, for the purpose—not so much of electing Hanna, for they can get

other servants as good as he; but for the purpose of crushing Johnson, over whom they know they have neither control nor influence, nor any possibility of acquiring either. Out of this gigantic fight Johnson has come with clean hands. He has had no great campaign fund. He has spent no money except for the barest necessities for enlightening the people. He has used no billingsgate, has made no personal attacks, has confined his criticisms to the public records of his adversaries and devoted his discussions to principles rather than men. With seven victories to his credit since he began his crusade for even-handed justice in government, and only four defeats, his character and record stand out bright and strong against the day for another battle with the Princes of the Powers of Darkness in American politics.

The solitary place in all the United States which has not been wholly submerged by the plutocratic tidal wave of last Tuesday's elections, is Rhode Island, where Gov. Garvin is re-elected, in spite of the baleful power of Senator Aldrich, though by a reduced majority. Gov. Garvin is a democratic-Democrat. He belongs in the same political category with Tom L. Johnson, even to being a single taxer. Like Johnson, too, he is a man who not only knows but dares. His administration in Rhode Island has made him conspicuous even nationally. The people of his State are to be congratulated upon having defeated their plutocrats with so able and so radical a democrat.

The November issue of "Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly" should be in the hands of every American who has any sincerely patriotic interest in the welfare of his country. For an article by the editors