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RYERSON W. JENNINGS

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Dear Mr. Jennings

This may not be your
potatoes but is the
way a great many of
us are feeling.

Yours truly

W

Chicago. 2.9.93

W. W. Jennings

CHAUTAQUA COUNTY

Chicago, Feb. 1

W. H. O'Brien

HOW ONE REPUBLICAN FEELS—Every republican in this land is under a debt of gratitude to the Hon. J. S. Clarkson for his presentation of the facts concerning the defeat of President Harrison last November. That 41,000 loss in New York and 8,000 in Indiana will be forever a menace against a man thrusting himself on a party against his party's wishes. Two happenings in Illinois very soon after Minneapolis presaged the same results in this state. A mere handful of Mr. Blaine's friends published a protest against the office-holders' convention, and the office-holders' candidate. That protest (which the Chicago Tribune editorially published and mildly scored the authors of) was answered in a remarkable manner. Eleven states were represented in the hundreds of letters we received. Offers of money came pouring in on us; organization was impatiently demanded. One writer, a leading lawyer of Chicago, said the "republican party only had one candidate and he was in their hearts—Blaine." These letters were answered as far as possible saying: "There was now no need of organization. The feeling exhibited pointed plainly to one result, and that was the defeat of President Harrison."

Another incident which told the coming of the hurricane was even more significant. As a member of the Citizens' National Civil Rights association, under the leadership of that humane, magnificent man, Albion W. Tourgee, I came in contact with some of the leading colored men of Chicago. They were as a unit that they must wait four years more and Cleveland was preferable to Harrison. Mr. Clarkson indirectly has removed a cloud that has hovered over McKinley. The desperate, maddened, and one may say, cowardly crowd, headed by Depew and others who had so woefully misjudged American feeling, were compelled to hide their own confusion and righteous wrath, which was directed toward them, and they with one accord took their cue from Harrison and shouted as if with one voice: "It was McKinley! It was the tariff!" and in so doing they politically almost ruined as noble an example of American manhood as ever lived, and one who had stood in the forefront of a cause that was doomed to defeat the moment the Minneapolis farce was over, and valiantly tried to stem the tide which was so soon to overtake a party which had not been true to its underlying principles. Ohio, through its love for Blaine, was almost lost. Ohio, through its love for McKinley and the principles he holds dear, will soon show how much he was to blame by making him her governor again by 25,000 to 50,000 majority.

Thus, one by one, will the scales be removed from men's eyes, and the group of small men that led the republican party to disaster will appear as though the nation was looking at them through the Lick telescope, pointing with the end reversed toward them.

H. W. Jennings.

Oak Park, Feb. 6