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Presidential Electors.

During the first administration of
President Cleveland, the 49th Congress
in its second session passed an Act
Chapter 90, approved February 3, 1887,
entitled "An Act to Fix the Day for the
Meeting of the Electors of President
and Vice-President, and to Provide for
and Regulate the Counting of the Vote
for President and Vice-President, and
the Determination of Questions Arising
Thereon"; the Act by its second
section provided that each State should
determine "any controversy or con-
tentious concerning the appointment of all
or any of the electors of such State" at
least six days prior to the meeting of the
electors provided previous to the
date for the election for that purpose.
The State had passed a law providing
for such determination. The Act, fur-
ther provides that in case of disputed or
contested results the one should be
counted whose title is supported by
the action of the State determined in
accordance with Section two of the
Act; but where there has been no such
determination the vote of any contested
State should not be counted unless
the two Houses concurredly shall de-
cide what is the legal vote unless the
two Houses acting separately should
hold it not so to be, in which event "the
votes of the electors whose appointment
shall be certified by the Executive
of the State, under the seal thereof,
shall be counted." The object of the
law, says Mr. W. O. Hart, of the
Louisiana Historical Society, was to prevent
another such case as that of the Hayes-
Tilden election in 1876, when Tilden
received a large majority of the elec-
tors' votes on the face of the returns,
but where Hayes was given the election
by a vote of 185 to 184, because
the governors of Florida, Louisiana
and South Carolina, at that time all
Republicans (Stearns, Kellogg and
Chamberlain) certified the election of
the Republican electors and the elec-
toral commission created by Congress
to decide the question by eight Repub-
licans and seven Democrats, voted not
to go behind the certificate notwithstanding
that in Florida there was a
judicial determination that Tilden elec-
tors were legally chosen. Considering
the possibility of contested returns,
which might determine the results of the
election this year and the possibil-
ity of same occurring again, every
State ought to adopt the law referred
to in the Section of the Act of Congress
above mentioned, and Mr. Hart has
taken the matter up with Judge W. H.
McKean of Pennsylvania, president of
the National Conference of Commissioners
on Uniform State Laws, with
the suggestion that that body prepare
a uniform law at its next conference
so that same may be presented to and
admirably adopted by all the States
at the next presidential election;
and even, Mr. Hart will endeavor to
have a law passed by the Louisi-
ana legislature at its next session.

TO THE PUBLIC

The New Orleans Bee, No. 520
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LE BULLETIN DU JOUR

Suite de la 1ère page.

éans. Ils ne croient plus à la sincé-
rité des Teutons, qui invoquent sans
cesse le droit, tout en envoyant des
milliers d'innocents au fond de la mer
et en étendant chaque jour l'horreur de
leurs crimes. Leurs sympathies, pour
les alliés se montrent de plus en plus
agressives et généreuses. Mais l'huma-
nitarisme de quelques Américains s'est
éteint et les invites teutonnes ont éveillé
chez ces pacifistes, l'espoir de voir
la fin prochaine d'une guerre qui ren-
verse toutes leurs prévisions et épou-
veille leur sensibilité.

Un certain nombre de journaux, par-
tant de la conception erronée que la
victoire est incertaine, qu'aucun des
adversaires ne se reconnaît battu, esti-
ment que "les temps sont mûrs pour
la paix." Le "New-York Times" a même
commencé la publication d'une sé-
rie d'articles pour demander qu'on
mette fin au conflit par un arrangement
international auquel participerai-
ent les Etats-Unis. Ces suggestions
n'ont pas pour but de favoriser
l'Allemagne. Elles ne visent qu'à
mettre un terme à une calamité mon-
diale et se tient, pour l'avenir, à l'espérance
que la paix sera conduite à bonne fin,
quicque dure qu'elle soit. Les alliés en
ont pris l'engagement solennel.

Comme le déclarait M. Asquith, à la
Chambre des communes, "ils ne dépo-
seront pas les armes avant que la Bel-
gique soit délivrée et indemnisée, que la
France soit garantie contre les
agressions futures, que les droits des
peuples nations soient établis sur des
bases indestructibles et que la domina-
tion militaire de la Prusse soit définiti-
vement détruite." Toutes les tenta-
tives de paix se heurtent à cette iné-
branlable résolution.

—P. H. ERMONT.

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