The first and vital object to be accomplished to-day is the election of WOODROW WILSON. It is next in importance that Mr. TAFT should lead Mr. Roosevelt in the Electoral and the popular vote. It has for many years been desirable that political power in the Nation should be transferred from the Republicans to the Democrats. The desired transfer has been postponed because the Democratic Party has wandered in strange places, has committed itself to unsafe doctrines under distrusted leaders. That has been cured. The Democracy has returned from its wanderings, it is again a united party, and its candidate, passing in triumph all the tests and challenges of the campaign, stands before the country as a man of high equipment for the office, worthy of the full confidence of the people. Without misgiving, with entire safety, and to the advantage of the Nation, the Democrats may now be returned to power. The country has made up its mind upon that point. Mr. Wilson will be elected to-day. It is to the interest of the Nation

preserved as an organized, coherent opposition. The public welfare is not served by the collapse of a great party, by the rise of discordant factions in place of a compact organization. of great moment, it is of urgent need, that the Republican candidate should come out second in the poll, second, not third, in the Electoral College and in the popular vote. The party will then be in a position to rebuild, to free itself from the influences that have diminished its estate, to hold again the place in the politics and in the affairs of the Nation to which it is entitled by its historic achievements. More urgent yet is the need that the Progressive Party and its candidates should be put in third place. It would be of ill omen, it would be a disquiet-

that the Republican Party should be

ing indication of unsound popular judgment, of unsteadiness, and of want of sense and responsibility in the electorate, if so large a part of the people should yield to the appeals of ROOSEVELT as to put him second in the polling. The essential part of his programme is the crippling and overthrow of institutions of which we are with good reason most proud, of established parts of our Governmental system which we cannot without the gravest danger permit to be effaced. That Mr. ROOSEVELT is unsafe in counsel and in policy is proved again by the authoritative review of his Madison Square Garden speech in which Elihu Root, JOHN G. MILBURN, LOUIS MARSHALL, and WILLIAM D. GUTHRIE show that in his attack upon the courts of this State Mr. Roosevelt totally misapprehended the law and absolutely misstated the facts of the cases, very important cases, upon which he based His misstatements his arguments. were not of negligible detail, but of the very substance of the litigations. Sober-minded men do not need to be warned that a man who blunders this way with respect to decisions of courts of record, whose appeals votes rest upon the grossest misapprehension of law and fact, cannot with safety be vested with the highest powers under our Government of laws. We are accustomed to feel and to believe that the American people are enlightened, that their collective judgment is It would be a cause not merely for chagrin but for apprehension if the

the persuasions of a

should reject.

larger part of the great party that has

so long held power should now yield to

their wisdom and their calmness they

man whom