

Democrats' attempt to expand their base outside the South failed in 1908 with Bryan's progressivism as it had in 1904 with Parker's conservatism.

As they did in the previous presidential election, Maryland voters created a split electoral vote. The most votes went to a Republican elector but six of the next highest seven were Democrats. Again, it is difficult to declare who won Maryland. Maryland was in the midst of internal political change and the returns from 1908 reflected the uncertainty of the electorate. In the intervening years since the last presidential election, the Democratic bosses, Gorman and Rasin, had died³⁷ and the Democratic attempts to disfranchise the black vote had been rejected by Maryland voters. Bryan's percentage of the total vote in Maryland rose slightly from his previous presidential bids but, unlike 1904, the average vote for the Republican electors exceeded that for the Democrats. (See Table 3.)

Table 3

1904 Vote for Presidential Electors

Democratic Electors		Republican Electors	
*Frank Brown	109,446	*Charles F. Bonaparte	109,497
*Elihu E. Jackson	107,477	Calton L. Bretz	106,993
*Ferdinand Williams	107,460	Alfred G. Sturgiss	106,896
*John E. George	107,343	R. Rastall Walker	106,876
*James King	107,333	Robert Ogle	106,787
*T. Herbert Shriver	107,285	Edward M. Allen, Jr.	106,721
*Samuel A. Mudd	107,278	J. Webb Thomas	106,709
Charles H. Knapp	107,276	George A. Hartman	106,694

1908 Vote for Presidential Electors

Democratic Electors		Republican Electors	
*James Enos Ray, Jr.	115,908	*John O. Robinson	116,513
*James W. Denny	114,161	*Albert C. Towers	113,803
*Edwin H. Brown, Jr.	113,930	Robert S. Adkins	113,570
*John F. Williams	113,877	Joseph Brooks	113,444
*J. Charles Linthicum	113,823	Luther Kemp	113,364
*Hampson H. Biedler	113,750	Millard F. Burgess	113,315
Charles H. Conley	113,635	J. Webb Thomas	113,268
William H. Hellen	113,673	Moses Bomberger	113,252

*elected

Four counties and Baltimore City voted differently in 1908 than in 1904 evidencing the reactions to events within the state. The entire Eastern Shore, except for Somerset,