TWO OF THE LIVING ISSUES

A Large Republican Meeting Addressed by an Old Soldier and a Convert.

Corporal Tanner in Eloquent and Vigorous Style Shows Where the Grand Army Boys Stand—Matson Receives a Severe Scoring.

Dr. Fletcher's Record of Facts Concerning a Place of Political Rottenness.

Insane Hospital Management by Democrats Given a Searching and Exhaustive Review—What Men Think of the Outlook.

AT TOMLINSON HALL.

Stirring Speeches by Corporal Tanner and Dr. W. B. Fletcher, Lately a Democrat.

Three thousand people were at Tomlinson Hall, last night, to hear addresses by Corporal Tanner, of New York, and Dr. W. B. Fletcher, of this city, for several years superintendent of the Indiana Insane Hospital. All present were anxious to hear the latter from the fact that he has severed his connection with the Democratic party, and is in possession of important facts connected with the ring's disgraceful management of the hospital. The audience was one of marked intelligence. Hundreds of the best people of the city were present, among them many Democrats who have an interest in the good management of the charitable institutions of the State. Several hundred ladies were also there, and remained until the close of the meeting, giving close attention to all that was said. The First Regiment Harrison and Morton guards attended in a body, and occupied the middle tier of seats, reserved for them. The gathering, like all those the Republicans are holding, was remarkably enthusiastic. Every mention of Harrison's name was cheered, and frequently, while the audience was assembling, it voluntarily broke out into cheers. The First Regiment Band furnished the music for the occasion, and helped to make the good cheer run high by rendering several of the stirring national airs. Hon. Geo. W. Spahr, colonel of the First Harrison and Hovey Regiment, presided. In calling the meeting to order he created some amusement by saying that he desired all present to understand this was a Republican meeting, and that all Republican meetings came near being religious meetings. In announcing Corporal Tanner and Doctor Fletcher as the speakers, he spoke of the former as a man who in the hour of danger to the country hurried to the front, and of the latter as a man who held to the right doing of official duty above party fealty.

Corporal Tanner was the first speaker. He was given a very cordial reception by the audience when he came forward, many of the soldiers using and waving their flags. He spoke for a little over an hour, and in a terse, convincing manner discussed the leading issues of the campaign. His address abounded with argument, eloquence, wit, and humor. He has a magnificent voice, and at times his eloquence is equal to that of Ingersoll. He devoted special attention to the tariff question, and offered convincing argument in favor of protection. Begging the pardon of the audience for waving the bloody shirt, he showed how the South, when it went into rebellion, favored free trade; how England coincided with the view; how the latter country stood by the South during the rebellion, and how the North and protection triumphed over the South, free trade, and England. The North, he predicted, would again triumph over the same forces, reinforced by President Cleveland. His arraignment of President Cleveland for his treatment of the Union soldiers was severe, and his reference to the bandanna handkerchief as the emblem of Democracy in this campaign was both amusing and impressive. The bandanna, or a nose rag, he said, indicated a very bad case of internal derangement. This year it indicated that the case would be fatal. He then related how, prior to the war, the bandanna was worn as a head gear by the negro women of the South, not one of whom could say "my children are mine until death shall separate us." The Democratic party was welcome to the bandanna and all it represented; the Republican party would stick to the old flag, which had cost them so dearly, but was now bowed to by every nation of the earth, because it floated above them all. After Mr. Tanner was through with his regular speech he announced that he desired to devote ten minutes to the old soldiers present. He then addressed them as follows:

"Now, about your local affairs. I want to talk right from the shoulder to all old soldiers who are here, and I hold myself responsible, here or at any time, for what I say. For long years now, ever since that committee was organized, I have been a member of the national committee on pensions of the Grand Army of the Republic. Cutting it short, I want to say to the soldiers of Indiana that the most completely equipped demagogue I ever knew—I repeat it—the most completely equipped demagogue I ever knew, as evidenced by his public acts, is the present nominee of the Democratic party for Governor of Indiana. [Applause; 'Hit him again.'] Judging him solely on the record he has made there, he is not entitled to a solitary vote from a solitary veteran of the Union army. [Applause.] He is an able gentleman, and therefore has been more dangerous to the interests involved; because he has been just smart enough to sit there in his committee and make reports and report them to the House, ostensibly favoring pension legislation for the benefit of the boys, and the widows and the diseased and crippled. What after that? What does he do after he gets it reported to the House? He has never lifted a finger to try to get the House to give any consideration to those measures, thereby convicting himself of his absolute double-facedness on these matters. [Applause.] When we saw the condition of affairs, realizing, as we did on the 10th of last May, that we must get these things before the House if it was ever to result in any benefit to the boys at large, we started a petition, addressed to the committee on rules, asking that committee, which had the power, to set aside one, two or three days for the consideration of general pension legislation. We got over one hundred signatures of members of Congress, but we could not get the signature of the gentleman from Indiana, Mr. Matson. Now, getting upon the calendar is a thing sought for; but under this administration and under the leadership of Mr. Matson, getting on the calendar has come to be the graveyard of all soldier legislation. He did report a monstrosity.

"Can the soldier complain if, after having received pro rato the same as his comrades, he finds that he has not enough to support him—can he complain if, for the balance of his subsistence, he has to apply as other citizens do to constituted charitable authorities? That is the neatest way I ever heard the term poormaster got around, and it ought to stamp the brand of shame upon the brow of the man within whose frame is carried the heart that is so cold-blooded as to propose it. [Applause]. Against Mr. Matson you have a man who never faltered in duty to the Republic, who never forgot that he was a comrade of the men he commanded, who, if you put him in the State-house here at Indianapolis, will stand in the future as A. P. Hovey stood all through the war, for the interest of the citizens of the United States, without distinction of race, creed or color." [Applause].

This arraignment of Colonel Matson was applauded by those present at the close of nearly every sentence, and when he finished Corporal Tanner was vigorously cheered.

After some vocal music Dr. W. B. Fletcher was introduced by Colonel Spahr. His appearance was greeted with repeated cheers, and nearly the entire audience arose and joined in the applause. Many persons in the rear of the room, desiring to hear all he said, crowded forward, and stood in the side aisles during his entire address. He read from manuscript in an earnest, impressive manner. Frequently he was interrupted by applause, and at the close of the address the audience arose and gave him three cheers. Many friends also crowded around him and congratulated him on the stand for principle he had taken.

Dr. Fletcher began by briefly sketching the origin of the State's benevolent institutions and their non-partisan management by Whigs and Democrats until 1857, when the Legislature (Democratic), with unprecedented malignity and cruelty, refused appropriations for their maintenance. "All the inmates," the Doctor said, "were removed except the few who could pay their expenses. I heard a description of this period in the history of our Hospital for the Insane from an eye-witness. He said it would make one's heart bleed to see those men and women, young and old, carted off in irons, ropes and straps, to be hidden in poor-houses or the dungeons of jails, and many that could be cured were thus to become hopelessly insane." In this act was a gross violation of duty, which the members of the Legislature had sworn to perform. It was denounced at that time in the annual report of the hospital. The refusal of the appropriations for these institutions was done for party purposes; and yet, in 1862, the same thing was repeated by another Democratic Legislature. It was Governor Morton's action at that time that saved the institutions.

The Doctor then reviewed the defects that appear in the law relating to the care of the wards of the State. It set forth his views, which have been expressed in a public address before the National Conference of Charities and Corrections in Washington, June 8, 1885, and thereafter in the press. In the course of this he called attention to the fact that the Democratic and Prohibitionist State platforms did not mention the benevolent institutions, but the Republican platform did. The Democrats promised no reform, as they were, by the indorsement they gave it, satisfied with the present management of the institutions. He, in this connection, urged the election of a General Assembly that would not only secure the reforms needed but provide for a constitutional amendment which would forever remove the State's charities from partisan control. "Not only," said he, "should laws pertaining to the direct management of these institutions be changed, but all those pertaining to the commitment of persons adjudged insane should be remodeled. As the statutes now stand they absolutely invite, through large fees, the sheriffs, clerks, justices and doctors alike to a constant hunt for victims to be acted upon in holding useless insanity inquests. An examination of our county records in this line has suggested that a ring of this kind could be found at home. At any rate, our laws are so loose as to be dangerous to human liberty. While the law remains unchanged every man should "take a bond of fate" against his physician, not knowing but that to-morrow some enemy or some heir covetous of his generous estate may summon the doctor to consign him to a mad-house. The Lettres De Casket, which were so convenient to hide away persons in the Bastile, unheard, were not more cruel. The allegation that you are insane—made by any one—is quite sufficient to put a couple of justices on the scent. Two doctors next follow, and sometimes a witness is found; but the whole thing can be done in a few hours without your knowledge, and you may be behind the bars, where it is harder to get a hearing than if you were sent to the county jail or penitentiary. No murderer, horse-thief or vile bawd that walks the streets could be thus dealt with. After arrest they would be able to consult with attorneys and with friends, which those accused of insanity cannot do. As a test of the looseness of the law, and how it can be worked, a gentleman in the north part of the State made the allegation that his friend, D. ——, had become insane, and urged that proceedings be quickly taken without arousing his suspicion to send him to the hospital. As he was obliged to have an examining physician sign the paper he calls on Dr. ——, with a request of his signature, telling him that it was a case of undoubted insanity, and quick work was required. The doctor, seeing a prospect of fees for two days ($6) coming for a minute's real service, put his name down, and was more than astonished a few hours after to find the sheriff had a warrant to take him to the hospital forthwith—and he could not complain so long as he had examined himself and declared himself insane. While this was a cruel joke, how serious a thing it is in reality when some prejudiced person sends some innocent fellow-being to the hospital for the insane when it may take weeks before the error is discovered. No law should ever permit a person to be adjudged insane without the person having full opportunity to call counsel and have a hearing before a court or jury."

The doctor then took up in detail the frauds that are practiced and the extortionate fees charged through these loose laws. As an example he cited the case of Mrs. Reichel, the woman whose insanity took the form of charitable-giving in indiscreet distribution of her money. She was once in the Insane Hospital, but Dr. Fletcher sent her away because he saw no reason for detaining her. In 1887 he rejected the second application for her admission, as he regarded her as a mild chronic who would be better off at home. Recently Mrs. Reichel was sent to the hospital as an incurable, when there had been no change for the worse in her condition. This yielded fees amounting to $95, divided among the doctors, justices of the peace, sheriff and clerk. He took up the various items of this bill of fees, and first attacked the account for clothing, which the clerk provided, notwithstanding Mrs. Reichel was abundantly able to pay for it herself. He gave other cases where several commitments to the hospital of the same person cost, in one instance, as high as $204.40. An abuse in these charges was mileage, which often made half the bill of costs. In every case the clerk would supply clothing at the expense of the tax-payer, whether the patient's friends were able to purchase it or not. He urged, also, a change in the laws that would make the condition of female patients better in their transmission to and reception at the hospital.

This brought the Doctor to consider the question of direct management, concerning which he said: "Prior to 1879 there were few changes in the statutes regarding management of the benevolent institutions. The general management was by trustees, but all of the special details were in the hands of the superintendent. The superintendent was as much the head of his institution as any father could be the head of his family. He employed and discharged; caused the steward to purchase such food and clothing as was desirable and best for the patients. No employe knew of any other power than his superior officer. There was no business or other relation between employes and trustees. The Legislature of 1878-9, being Democratic, changed the original law of management so that the trustees became the purchasing agents of the various institutions, and were given power to fix the number and wages of employes. The superintendent might nominate employes, but the board could reject. 'And in all things,' says the statute, 'he shall be governed by the board.' This law literally makes the superintendent, as one trustee has frequently remarked, nothing but a "figure-head." All business management was virtually held by the trustees—and their book and store-keeper—for the steward of the old law was done away. Not only was this novel and unheard-of law passed, but another in the shape of the Brown bill of '83, whereby the trustees were not only made sole custodians of the institution and sole business managers, but placed where no power save an act of the General Assembly could remove them—as has been recently evinced by the failure of a Democratic Governor and a Republican Attorney-general to oust them for direct violation of the statutes made and provided for their conduct. One of the first sections of the law regarding the appointment of superintendents says they shall be qualified by education and experience in the matters over which they are to preside. With such protection the new trustees immediately proceeded to make a clean sweep, and to do so had to seek some excuse to bring about the resignation or dismissal of Dr. McIntire, who had served twenty-seven years as superintendent of the deaf and dumb; Dr. Evarts, with sixteen years creditable service as superintendent of the Insane Hospital, and having been the architect of our new hospital building, the most perfect in America, and Wm. Churchman, a blind man, who had taught the blind for fifty years, who had organized our own institution and planned our present building. He even crawled on his hands and knees around the walls at night, as the superstructure was being erected, to know if each stone and brick were in place. These men must all go. There was not a party man in Indiana who could take their places under the law, for none were to be had with the education and experience demanded by the statute. 'The plan pitched upon was to annoy the incumbents into resignation, and this was pursued in a manner so merciless that the Rev. McIntire and Dr. Evarts were forced out through a moral martyrdom, and William Churchman was only saved by Governor Williams calling a halt, saying 'Gentlemen, if you are going to put a man out for purely political reasons, say so, and don't try to cover him up with filth and blacken his character.' Thos. McIntire is dead, Wm. H. Churchman is dead, Orpheus Evarts honors his calling and a sister State. If there is in our State-house a niche for eminent men—for such as have done honor to Indiana, and made her benevolent institutions famous for their pre-eminence—that niche should be filled by the busts of these leaders in their calling. A monument is already built for them in the hearts of the hundreds of unfortunates whom they made happier in life.

"In the past ten years fourteen assistant physicians have been in the employ of the hospital—but five of whom were appointed on account of their age, education and character qualifying them for the place. Of the fourteen but four are now in the hospital, and but one has had an experience of over four years, and only one of these holds the situation for absolute merit and not on political strength. Of the fourteen, two resigned because they were to be put out for political causes. One of these holds a high place in the practice of his specialty in Illinois, where politics does not interfere with his usefulness, or in perfecting his knowledge. Another honorably resigned because he would not serve under a board of trustees whom he believed to be dishonorable in their dealings with his superior officers. Another and more useful physician resigned because of the political turmoil which prevented his advancement professionally and because of the insecurity of the position. He accepted a similar situation in another State where no changes are made for politics. All the rest were permitted to resign for reasons best known to themselves."

The Doctor then referred to the incapacity and unfitness of the attendants and assistant physicians employed. He then said, referring specially to the Insane Hospital: "The superintendent is powerless regarding what the trustee purchases, and, with other officials leagued against him, cannot know if the quality or quantity is correct, or if the food is wholesome or not. The whole institution is a festering mass of political corruption wherein the innocent are made to suffer, and the only alleviation for those suffering will be to carry the next Legislature, with each member pledged to support the State civil-service plank in the Republican platform.

"As to the so-called outside employes of the Insane Hospital of Indiana, they have been for years directly under the fostering wing of one or the other members of the trustees. They are called in counsel by them in all matters political, and it is no uncommon thing for trustees to visit the institution without calling upon the superintendent. They may be seen conferring in secret places at any hour of night or day with special political magnates, such as the boss carpenter, the firemen, upstairs physicians, the gardener, the hostler, giving orders which only the superintendent should do, and making promises which degrade the service and detract from the influence of the superior officer. The trustees make themselves perfectly at home, night or day, with their friends, when they have no more right to do so than they have to lodge at the Bates House free of charge. With this sort of management what can be the condition of the patients behind the bars?

"The hospital has been a continuous political pest-house, and a place, too, of refuge for special political work of visiting and other statesmen, who found the law offices of the city and private rooms in hotels were too public for their work.

"The trustees, during my observation, set their faces against any improvement in the hospital, so far as the treatment of patients is concerned. They did not forbid the abolition of restraints, but cautioned against innovations so unusual. They grumbled about burning the wagon-loads of apparatus of tortures and bondage, but when it was found a success, they were fond of talking of what wonderful reforms they had made. When schools were opened for patients they waited until they got the benefit of some public commendation, and the Legislature adjourned, and then ordered the teachers discharged, and the schools closed. This was done because the teachers were women who were unable to vote, and beside had friends in another political faction. Notwithstanding it was a great detriment to a large number of patients, the schools were abolished.

"A school for the education and training of attendants was carried through one session, from which fourteen attendants graduated; but they were so superior in their ability that it caused bad feelings among the more indolent ninety and nine, that they were mostly discharged. As a recognition of their superiority all of them who desired it found better situations in the hospitals of other States. When some of the daily papers mentioned the fact that most of the educated nurses were discharged, a communication from the hospital was sent in that they had only discharged a few of the old silurian attendants, who had been pets too long. It was noticed that the same authorities soon filled the places of these good lady attendants from that strata geologically known as the drift period, for several women who had been discharged for errors and direct abuse of patients drifted back into the service in a short time. The abuse of patients in the hospital is a matter that cannot be avoided unless the utmost care is exercised in the selection of the attendant, who should know nothing but obedience to his or her superior officer—and trustees are not officers of the medical department. The present board of trustees is, in my estimation, guilty of discharging persons without authority, and of keeping persons in place on large salaries who are useless and incompetent. Their means of conducting the financial matters of the hospital should be left to future proof rather than present aspersion, but it is a pitiable spectacle that a man trusted with the responsibility as trustee of a great and noble charity, should be at the same time interested in a commission house which ten times in twelve months carried off the most profitable contracts of the institution, and, notwithstanding his pretended advocacy of economy and reform, whereby schools are closed and physicians discharged, the record shows that with fewer patients in the hospital, and provisions cheaper, the expenses have increased. As the basis of these comparisons and contrasts, I have taken figures and statements found in vouchers on file in the State Auditor's office for a period of six consecutive months in 1887, and covering a corresponding period in the year 1888. The total expenditures during the said six months in 1887 were $131,137.81, under the following heads: Maintenance, $126,628.19; clothing, $4,508.29; repairs, $3,001.33. For the corresponding period during the following year (1888), the total expenditures amounted to $143,122.63. For maintenance, $130,650.32; clothing, $5,777.38; repairs, $6,694.93. By comparing these figures we find that an increased cost of running each separate department of the institution results in an increased total expenditure of nearly ten thousand dollars ($8,984.82) for six months of the year 1888, over that of six months in the year previous.

"An examination of one branch of the department of maintenance is especially interesting. I refer to the purchase of that class of supplies designated in the account as produce. Under this head, which includes the items butter, poultry and eggs, there were purchases during six months in 1887, amounting to $6,290.24. For a corresponding period in 1888 these articles cost $10,113.62, making an increased expenditure in six months in 1888 of nearly four thousand dollars ($3,823.36) over an equal period in 1887. Probably some facts in regard to the number of inmates at the hospital during the period referred to would add to the force of this argument. But closer examination of this subject develops further interesting facts. In six months of 1887 the monthly estimates of the superintendent were exceeded by the amount furnished, at least paid for, by the board by 5,640 dozen eggs and 1,557 pounds of poultry. The rejection of butter on account of its utter unfitness for use resulted in the supply of that article falling 2,686 pounds short of the requisition. During six months of the present year this excess principle has been allowed to develop in the same proportion that other expenditures have increased. In actual figures, it appears that 7,645 dozen eggs, 3,890 pounds of poultry and 5,839 pounds of butter over and above the amounts called for in liberal estimates have found their way into the produce bills which have been allowed by the board. However, a still more interesting feature of the produce business remains to be disclosed. During the twelve months under consideration there were given contracts for furnishing butter, poultry and eggs amounting in the aggregate to $16,403.86. Out of these twelve separate contracts ten were awarded to John E. Sullivan. J. R. Budd & Co. are made to figure on two occasions as the contractors, and in one instance C. M. Coates & Co. are permitted to furnish 461 pounds of butter, being a little more than one-tenth the amount of the requisition for the month, while the balance of the contract goes to J. E. Sullivan.

"Let us look a little further and see whether produce-contractor J. E. Sullivan merited all these contracts by virtue of being, in the language of the printed form of the advertisements for bids, the lowest and best bidder. I have satisfactory evidence that on three separate occasions, bids were made by a firm in this city to furnish the produce at a lower figure than the price at which the contracts were then awarded to John E. Sullivan and J. R. Budd; the difference in one instance being over $200 in favor of the bidder who did not get the contract. I refer to the bids made by Arthur Jordan in April, 1887, when his bid was $18.67 the lowest; again in March, 1888, when there was a difference of $11.06 in his favor, and again in June of the present year, when his bid was $201.09 below that of J. R. Budd, who received the contract. In other instances the difference between the amounts of the bids of Mr. Jordan and those of John E. Sullivan were so triflingly insignificant in favor of Mr. Sullivan as to leave room for suspicion that this best bidder had enjoyed the advantage of some previous knowledge on the subject. Thus it appears that Sullivan, Budd & Co. were not always the lowest bidders, nor were they the best. The advertisements for bids stipulate the kind and quality of produce to be furnished, and call for first-class articles. Investigations have shown the quality of articles furnished by these particular best bidders. I find by consulting the market reports for the time during which Sullivan & Budd were filling the contracts in question, that the wholesale price of the grade of butter called for in the contract was so much higher than the figure at which it was furnished to the asylum that it could only have been done at a heavy pecuniary loss to the said contractors. Did these men thus become voluntary public benefactors, or were they enabled to save themselves whole and unharmed and make a profit by the substitution of an inferior quality of produce? Investigations in the past shed some light on the subject."

Dr. Fletcher was listened to with earnest attention, showing the great interest the people have in the institution, which has been so outrageously mismanaged. At the close of his speech the meeting adjourned.

OTHER POLITICAL MATTERS.

Governor Rusk Has the Strongest Confidence in His State.

Governor Rusk was a prominent figure around the New Denison House lobby all day yesterday. He received many people, and talked freely on political subjects. To a Journal reporter he said he felt confident of General Harrison's election, and would be surprised if he did not carry every Northern State.

"What is there in the Democratic talk that Wisconsin will go Democratic?" was asked.

"I do not believe any sensible man would make such a statement," said he. "I have heard since I left home that Democrats are saying so. To be plain, I desire to say that any man who makes such a statement is talking about something he doesn't know anything about, or is purposely misrepresenting facts. The Democrats at home make no such boasts, because they know better. I can't understand why such reports are being circulated, unless it is because the Democrats have hopes of influencing the vote in other States. There is no more chance for Wisconsin to go Democratic than there is for Illinois. I honestly believe we will give a larger Republican majority than ever before. It will not be less than 20,000, and I would not be surprised if it reached 25,000. I have never seen the Republicans of the State more enthusiastic, or better organized. Men are in line doing work who never before took an active part in politics. The old soldiers are particularly enthusiastic, and I believe and hope that there will be very few veterans in the State who will not vote for General Harrison. Many soldiers who have heretofore acted with the Democratic party I know will support him.

"How do the people of Wisconsin feel about the tariff question?"

"The Republican doctrine of protection has a wonderful hold upon the people, and the sentiment favoring it is growing every day. The protection feeling is peculiarly strong among the farmers, who realize the benefits to be derived from a good home market. They recognize that the results of free trade would ruin them; they understand that they can only have a good market when there are plenty of consumers, and that protection to American manufactures has given them these consumers."

The Governor further said that everywhere he had traveled he had found the tide with the Republicans. It looked to him like an avalanche was coming. He felt confident, from advices received, that New York was surely Republican, and his information as to Indiana led him to believe the same of this State. The Republicans of Wisconsin, he said, had a good ticket in the field, and when November came round would refute all the stories Democrats were circulating.

A Well-Known Sheriff Talks.

The largest man among the Illinois visitors yesterday was Sheriff Matson, of Cook county. His bigness, however, is well proportioned, as he is unusually tall as well as heavy. Colonel Matson has served in various offices in Cook county and the city of Chicago for ten or twelve years, and has as extensive an acquaintance as any man in the Garden City. He was Sheriff at the time of the execution of the Anarchists, and it devolved upon him to superintend that work of justice. He is of the opinion that Chicago will not be troubled again by the followers of the red flag. To a Journal reporter he said last evening: "I think the society of Anarchists is pretty thoroughly broken up in our city. After the trouble two years ago we began such a close surveillance that they have been afraid even to hold meetings, and I think that very few of those who were liable to suspicion have ever met without the authorities being aware of the fact. Of course there may be a few cases of individual misdemeanors, as in the case of the four men arrested for plotting to blow up the houses of the judge and prosecuting attorney, but they will be the work of small companies and not of any great organization."

"Do you still maintain a close watch over them?" the reporter asked.

"Yes; the chief of police and myself join in that work. They are, however, very quiet, and I do not think they have contemplated doing anything since the punishment of the men who were condemned for the Haymarket affair. The Associated Press has from time to time sent out reports of plots to blow up buildings, plunder and murder, and so on, but they have been mistakes. Although I knew them to be such at the time, I was not in a position to make a public denial of them."

Sheriff Matson thinks Chicago is experiencing a great period of prosperity. Since the Republicans succeeded in carrying the county the debt hanging over the city has been paid off and many improvements made. When the Republicans took hold, the treasury had just been drained by the gang of boodlers, a portion of whom had been sent to prison and whose depredations were published all over the country. "The new election law," said he, "will be a great help to the Republicans in the approaching election, and there is not the iota of a doubt of our success. At the convention, on last Saturday, we renominated our entire list of officers, with the exception of one county commissioner, who positively declined to serve again. The ticket includes one Democrat, whom we nominated because we did not want to break up the reform board, as it became known."

"What attitude do the Democratic papers assume to the ticket?"

"I really do not know, as I have only seen those of Sunday. I suppose, however, that they will shout machine, for the want of something better to say. They talk about machine because we have an excellent organization, headed by Col. George R. Davis. An effective organization is always necessary to success, no difference what the surrounding circumstances."

Sheriff Matson does not take any active part in national politics, but says he is convinced that Harrison will have an easy victory. "The tariff question," said he, "is sufficient in itself to determine the matter. All over the country entire manufactories are turning over to him. Some of them which were almost solid for Cleveland, four years ago, will be found giving 95 per cent. of their vote to Harrison this fall. It is not that they propose leaving the Democratic party, but they intend to stand by the strong protection party 'until this thing is settled.' I will be very much surprised if Harrison does not have large majorities in both New York and Indiana. I am glad of it, too, as I warmly admire General Harrison's character. I first met him during the war, at Nashville, when I belonged to a Wisconsin regiment, and he was in command of the Seventieth Indiana."

They Indorse the Action.

The almost unanimous condemnation of Congressman Matson's pension record at the Columbus encampment was a general topic of conversation among the veterans who assembled in the New Denison coridors after their reception at General Harrison's yesterday afternoon. It was regarded by all as exactly the proper thing to do, and various opinions were heard upon all sides as to the strength it would add to the Republican canvass. "I only have one thing to say about it," remarked Governor Rusk, of Wisconsin, "there isn't a veteran in the United States but what will remember it in November, and I don't believe Mr. Matson will gain very many votes by it. The stab we gave him will cut pretty deep, and it ought to. Matson is a soldier, too, but so was Hovey, and your Indiana soldiers won't forget the distinction between their records."

Ira J. Chase, Republican candidate for Lieutenant-governor, said: "Matson never did a single thing for the soldiers of Indiana or any other State and hence they do not feel under any obligation to him. I believe the action of the boys at Columbus will gain us thousands of votes all over the country. It will be known in every State, and it will cease to be a State affair. The veterans all over the Nation will leave him in November just on that ground."

Bynum in His Ward.

It was 10 o'clock last night before Congressman Bynum began speaking at the corner of Seventh and Ash streets. The small crowd which had gathered around the stand became very impatient. Some went away, and one old gentleman present, to keep up courage, rather startled the Democrats by breaking out in a song, a paraphrase of a well-known hymn, to the effect that there would be no Democrats in heaven. But the crowd became large when the Hendricks and other clubs, making a creditable showing, reached the meeting. When the speaker began, though, they showed their usual want of interest by marching away. At the outset Mr. Bynum was presented with a cane by George W. Geiger, a gift from W. E. Myers, for whom Mr. Bynum received, it is said, a pension. Thanking the gentleman for his liberal donation, Mr. Bynum said that he made no pretensions to being the soldier's friend, only to discharge his duties in the national Congress. His speech last night was the same as that delivered at Haughville and all the ward meetings in this city. When the speaker had finished there were not over fifty present. The meeting could properly be called simply a marching affair.

A Tidal Wave Expected.

There is a remarkable change going on in the political conditions of Kentucky, say gentlemen who have been observing that State. Across the river from Dearborn county, Indiana, and Hamilton county, Ohio, there is a stretch of border counties where the old families have become thoroughly imbued with the Harrison and Morton sentiment. "The information I have," said E. G. Hayes, former Greenback candidate for Congress, of Lawrenceburg, "leads me to expect a marvelous turn in the vote of Kentucky. I hear of scores of families, who for generations have adhered to the Democratic party, coming in line with Republicans. Not only in that part of the State, but in its eastern counties on the West Virginia line the converts are numerous. Until this year no Republican pole-raising ever occurred there, but now along the river from Cincinnati up, the Republican poles are numerous. I note the same conditions in the hitherto Democratic counties of Tennessee. On Tennessee Ridge, which has but little communication with the outside world, the people are anxious to hear about the Republican candidates. Over the doors of stores can be frequently seen the names of Harrison and Morton, where a year ago a Republican could not be found. Coming back to Indiana, I could give you a long list of names of those who have left the Democratic party and are now with us. It is amazing, this great change in political feeling, and I look for a tremendous Republican vote everywhere."

He Leads the Battalion.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal:

Louis Bishop, colonel of what is called the Democratic regiment of soldiers at Indianapolis, was recruited as a private in the Twenty-third Indiana Battery, April 10, 1863, and was dishonorably discharged as such Dec. 16, 1864. (See vol. 7, Adjutant-general Reports, p. 771.) This specimen Democratic soldier is now in command of the Cleveland and Thurman regiment, and flourishes gold in great abundance in offering to bet with old soldiers that his candidate will have a majority of the veterans' votes. The soldier who left his comrades on the battle-field is now fit to lead a class vote to Cleveland—the man who hired a substitute, the man who vetoed a soldier bill while Mayor, the man who has, while President, vetoed hundreds of such bills; the man who goes fishing on Decoration day, and the man who eulogized Albert Sidney Johnston in extravagant language. Johnston called the Union soldiers at the battle of Shiloh horse-thieves, vandals, debauchers and other names, and Bishop represents a class of men who are supporting Cleveland. J. C. W.

Will Not Answer the Purpose.

A communication from T. C. Clapp, Hartsville, Ind., to the editors of the Labor Signal, reveals the amount of credence put upon the statements of that sheet in his community. Mr. Clapp was a member of Company D, Seventieth Indiana, and he has made a thorough investigation of the false charges against General Harrison. From his letter it would seem that the course of the Labor Signal is aiding rather than injuring the Republican party in Hartsville and vicinity. Mr. Clapp draws a vivid contrast between its false assertions and the facts as they exist, which, fortunately, are known to all, Democrats and Republicans alike. The Labor Signal is being sent broadcast over the State free of charge, although repeated notices to quit its circulation from many of the unwilling recipients have been totally disregarded. This policy is for political capital alone, and the strong evidence of this fact is causing a far different result from that intended by its Democratic managers.

Thirteenth Ward Meeting.

The meeting of the Thirteenth ward Republicans, last night, was the largest and most enthusiastic held in that ward since 1880. The Baptist Church, on Michigan street, in which the meeting took place, was well filled. Mr. George Merritt presided, and introduced, first, ex-Lieutenant-governor Hanna, who delivered an interesting and convincing address on the tariff, taking the Democratic party to task for its free-trade purposes, and, at the same time, posing before the manufacturing element of the country as tariff reformers only. The address was warmly applauded many times. The next speaker was "Broadaxe" Smith, one of the best-known colored men in the State, and a humorous and interesting talker. His address caused much cheering and applause. Mr. Smith leaves this morning for Jeffersonville, where he speaks to-night. He will speak at a number of points throughout the State, closing at Richmond on the 28th.

To-Night's Meeting.

The ward clubs and organizations to take part in the parade, in connection with the meeting at the corner of State and Washington streets to-night, will report at the corner of Alabama and Market streets and be assigned to places in the line at 7:30 o'clock. The members of the First Regiment Harrison and Hovey Guards will meet at the Criminal Court room at the same hour, to take a place in the line as escort to ex-Governor Porter and John L. Griffiths, who will address the meeting at the place named.

Gen. Hovey's Movements.

General Hovey, who spent the day in the city yesterday, returned to Mount Vernon in the evening. He will then in a day or two go to Washington, as Colonel Matson has already done. Their pair expires to-day.

Political Notes.

Hon. C. S. Morris, of Louisville, Ky., is to accompany the Hon. Fred Douglass in his speaking tour through this State.

The Heiskill's Harrison Club will meet at the appointed place, 12:30 o'clock to-day, and at No. 55 West Washington street at 7:15 o'clock this evening.

Daniel J. Callinan left last night for Kankakee to decorate the engine that will bring the Irish-American Protective Tariff Club, of Chicago, to this city to-day.

Major Glover and John B. Elam addressed a fine meeting of Republicans night before last at New Augusta. The latter gentleman says it is the best ever held in that place.

It is expected that all the Harrison cavalry will turn out for this evening's demonstration without further notice. The place of meeting is to be at the east end of the court-house.

The members of the Seventh ward Republican club are requested to report at the club headquarters this evening at 7 o'clock sharp, to attend the East-end meeting. A full attendance is desired.

The Porter Flambeaus are requested to meet this evening in full uniform, at 7 o'clock sharp, at the court-house, to assist in escorting Gov. A. G. Porter and John L. Griffiths to the East-end meeting.

Members of the Columbia Club, with or without their uniforms, are requested to assemble at the New Denison Hotel this afternoon at 1 o'clock to go to the Union Depot and meet the Irish Club of Chicago. A full attendance is desired.

Mr. George W. Harvey, who has visited several cities in the State recently, and made Republican speeches, said yesterday that he never saw the State so worked up over an election. Everywhere there are Republican gains, and it looks like the Democrats would lose in every township in the State.

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