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SOCIAL SCIENCE.

Last Day's Proceedings of the Association in Session at Detroit—Most Important Discussions of the Session.

Hon. D. B. Eaton, on the Experiment of Civil Service Reform in the United States—A Lengthy Document.

Prof. C. A. Kent, on the Organization and Management of Political Parties, and their Attendant Evils, Etc.

DETROIT, May 14.—In the American social science association this morning Hon. Dorman B. Eaton, president of the late civil service commission, read a paper on the experiment of civil service reform in the United States, which was extremely lengthy, but was listened to with marked attention by the large audience. Mr. Eaton began by saying that the deliberate and needless abandonment of a plan by which a great nation had entered upon a reform of its gravest abuses may well arrest the attention of all thoughtful persons. Never before in our history has there been such a surrender of a higher to a lower element in our politics. Heretofore, in every great struggle for reform, we have fought it out to victory on the line of our advance, and have planted our standard high up in the light of the inspiring element. After dwelling upon the disasters which must result from the total abandonment of reform, the dismay of the best men and the delight of partisans and office-seekers at this national breach of pledge and disgrace, he proceeded to consider the justification of the responsible parties, and the future prospects. The inauguration of the spoils systems commenced with President Andrew Jackson, who removed nearly two thousand officers in a year for partisan reasons. Other Presidents removed very few. The last report of the civil service commissioners showed that no officers had been removed for opinion's sake that year. Now, however, we have returned to the old detestable system. The Republican party in 1871 adopted the reform rule because it believed it would add to their strength. The President brought an honest and heroic patriotism from the battle field, and the political atmosphere was pure. The time was auspicious. The evils of the old system and the beauties of the new were enlarged on, and a law was passed authorizing the President, with his associates, to adopt reform measures. A system of rules was carefully matured, and congress approved them heartily in two separate sessions. The Republican party fully pledged itself to sustain the system in its congress, in its conventions, and in every possible way. The national Democratic and Labor-Reform conventions passed resolutions commending it. State conventions of public men, orators and writers eulogized it. The praise of the President and faith in him was in the heart of all, and public gratitude was part of the merited faith of Mr. Curtis and his fellow-commissioners. The dominant party was strengthened by the popular vote, and everybody looked for a better era in politics. These rules provided: First—Against political assessments, leaving every citizen to contribute as he wished toward the promotion of his opinions. Second—That only a few of the highest offices should be filled by adherents of the dominant party, the others to be filled by the best men, irrespective of political opinions. Third—Tests were to be good reputation, honesty, and a fair competitive examination of applicants. Fourth—Appointments were to be made by superior officers according to the result of test, first probationary for six months, and subsequently on behavior. Fifth—That this power should not be exercised arbitrarily, and that nobody should be removed to make place for another. Sixth—That frequent competitions should take place, and that the examinations should be conducted by non-partisan commissioners. Seventh—That promotions were to be grading, admission being first to the lower grade. Eighth—The records and history of each appointee during his services should be kept. Ninth—That no person should hold at the same time a State and a Federal office. Tenth—The rules were applied also to that intermediate class of collectors' service, and others not wholly exempt, but yet to whom competition was not extended. This, in the opinion of Mr. Eaton, was inexpedient. And here the difficulties arose; and because Mr. Curtis, the first chairman of the commission, believed that he could not retain his position and usefulness, and also his self-respect, he resigned. Mr. Eaton then refers to the report of the cabinet meeting of April, 1874, which approved so highly the operation of the rules, and declared that their good effects are sensibly felt throughout the land. Therefore the rules should be enforced, with necessary modifications. Now, however, the peril began with the waning patriotism and morality of the party on which the rules relied for support. The salary grab law, the credit mobilier scheme, and other measures, indicated that the demoralized local organs of the party declared a reform useless; contractors, demagogues and spoilsmen denounced it and called for its overthrow; partisans besieged the President and cabinet with dolorous complaints of party losses by reason of the rules forbidding assessments on clerks and depriving the party majorities of their appointments and perquisites. In fact, of like experience of England which had purified her political machinery by similar means. The Republican orators and officials were listened to, while they stultified themselves and paved the way for the defeat of their party by speciously insinuating that the rules were autocratic in spirit and hostile to the genius of our institutions. But, said Mr. Eaton, I forbear any further evidence of decay in the moral tone of a party dear to me, and which, I trust, will yet rise to the level of its earlier achievements. Mr. Eaton then traced the progress of the various bills proposed in congress for a quiet abolition of the reform; in the efforts in congress to defeat the measures of its supporters, and the counter efforts of the convention, which were puny and insufficient, without substitute, without debate, without calling the ayes and noes, without any avowal of policy or assignment of reasons, without one manly protest even in the congress of the United States. The party in power adroitly attempted, by refusing a small appropriation to soothe a measure of reform thus successfully carried forward under its own enactment, for which its President and cabinet appealed, and upon the faith of which the election had been carried. There are no more humbuggeries on the pages of the records of congress than those which record the consummation of this policy. The greater responsibility rests on congress, but is the President faultless? Mr. Eaton didn't justify the indiscriminate censure on his shoulders, but affirms he gave sad occasion for criticism, and that being hard pressed by the party, he yielded too much, and reiterated what he should have repudiated. Still, he is entitled to praise for being the first President who had the moral courage to overthrow the spoils system. There were congressmen, too, who denounced him. They were bound in honor to sustain him after the refusal of congress to appropriate anything to support the reform. The commissioners could do little. At last the President announced to congress last year that if it adjourned without positive legislation on the civil service reform, he would regard such action as a disapproval of the system, and would abandon it. The civil service reform was for the present ended, for congress repeated the same farce of failure to appropriate for its continuance, thus accomplishing a suicide, a repudiation, and an insult to the President. As to the future, the reform is defeated temporarily, but so, also, are its opposers. We cannot continue the spoils. The system of reform will make its power felt again; the influence will last and permeate. This victory will not be an immediate nor radical reform when it begins again. It must be more restricted; it must not attempt too much. There need be no discouragement; the people are with us; our principles are sound. We can say of them as President Lincoln said of those whom he urged against slavery in 1856: These principles of ours are vital; they will ultimately win, and they will endure when you and I are gone.

The reading of this paper was followed by a animated debate, participated in by Gamaliel Bradford, Elizur Wright, and others, who took somewhat different grounds.

Prof. C. A. Kent then read a paper on political parties, their organization and management, and the evils thereof. Political parties are, the professor says, a necessity of the age, and are fully developed in free countries. Through them come reforms, but since the profession of reforms is easy and will be made alike by all parties, it is impossible that any party can hold together on one reform basis for any length of time. Rarely can a man or newspaper hold aloof from party and have much influence. Direct influence on governmental action is only obtained by party ties. A leader must not step outside his hearth; if he does, influence and leadership desert him. Intelligent members of a party usually prize it only as a means of carrying out their political ideas, but their number is few. The professor describes the partisan ends which are sought by the adherents of a party, whether dominant or in the minority. The ideal after which a party should strive is to put its best and wisest men at the head, that when in power it may be tested under the most favorable circumstances. Among the chief defects in the management of parties is, first, the great excess of party prejudices manifested in ultra views and statements of the most intelligent men. For this defect there seems no remedy, except a gradual education to better ways. Second, the patronage of the government which grows out of a desire of party managers to make their adherents zealous. This most corrupting and greatest of all defects caused it to be packed. It makes lobbies, and raises money for corrupting and bribing voters. To provide an effectual remedy for this is extremely difficult, but a remedy might be found in a rule prescribing that executive appointments be made for a definite and somewhat more lengthy period, expiring at times remote from executive elections, and by requiring qualifications, including character and experience. Official salaries should be reduced, and made only large enough to attract suitable men. Third, the growing difficulty of getting competent men to become candidates for office. One reason for this difficulty is the small salary paid some important officers. This is hard to remedy. Another reason is the service that is required of a candidate in the canvass, together with the drain on his purse for the purpose of influencing votes. This is a thing high-minded men will not submit to, and without it election is almost impossible; hence, poor or honest men cannot secure office, and they remain a prey of the rich and unscrupulous. The sacred duty of good citizens in these premises is to take a deeper interest in politics. Teachers should enforce this and preachers preach it, however distasteful. Let every citizen belong to some party, and strive to purify it by attending the primaries and by defeating unworthy nominations. Perfection is impossible, but by such means as those suggested much will be gained, and the world will be benefited.

Messrs. Gamaliel Bradford and W. P. Wells, of Detroit, discussed this paper briefly. Mr. Bradford called attention to the fact that little difference exists between the platforms of the Republican and Democratic parties. The questions now are rather of detail, and demand men of great power, who shall, by individual force, shape legislation. This closed the exercises of the local legal department of the general meeting.

A paper was read by William G. Hammond, of Iowa, on legal education and the study of jurisprudence in the west and northwest. Mr. Hammond said, in substance, that the jurisprudence of the northwest differs little from that of other sections of the Union. Western States differ from others, however, in that they have remarkably simple real estate titles, uninfested with feudal doctrines. They are free from ancient and rigid forms and constructions of law. Nowadays the great object of the legal instructor is not to prevent a student from becoming technical, narrow-minded and quibbling, and which was formerly the fault, but to restrain him from loose, inaccurate methods of thought. The bar of the western States is an unorganized body, without fixed professional traditions, and with little legal training. Mr. Hammond here shows the difficulty which law students experience in attempting to read and practice law in any but the largest offices. They must retain by sheer force of memory what they read from textbooks. This difficulty has originated the law schools, which are now rapidly advancing in public favor. It is the habit of study acquired in schools that makes the scholar more apt and worthy than is he who studies in the law office. A student who makes practical skill the first object, begins at the wrong end. He must begin by studying the theory. Even if the school teaches only a theory, this does not prove the other method more useful. Practice must come piecemeal. At the best, however, in a properly managed school of law, the practical part is by no means neglected, and such schools are becoming more numerous, but much is to be added to their present curriculum before they can be perfect. They must have the entire attention of the teachers. A busy lawyer or judge cannot do justice to a course of lectures in a school. His most valuable instruction may only embarass the pupil. There should be a considerable division of the labor. One professor should have but few topics, as is the case in Germany. The range of studies might be greatly enlarged, and with profit, especially since a large proportion of law students have no previous collegiate education. The rule of admitting only college graduates to legal institutions is visionary. In every law school there should be classes in English and American history, logic, rhetoric and political economy. Indeed, in all branches of social science even Latin might be added. These are merely a few of the most important suggestions of many that will occur to anybody who will think on the subject. Mr. Hammond here quoted from remarks made by President Woolsey, of Yale college, who advocates an extensive educational policy in law schools. These must, however, not be allowed to shade the real intention; they must be entirely subsidiary. The student should not attempt to memorize the great mass of law; he should content himself with learning where he can find it quickly. This is the great point to learn, and when learned and practiced is invaluable. Mr. Hammond concludes with a review of the best methods for instruction in legal institutions.

A spirited debate sprang up at the conclusion of this paper, in the course of which Dorman B. Eaton took occasion to vindicate the New York bar. He explained at some length their efforts to raise the standard of legal qualifications and to purify the profession, and described the progress of the society known as the "Bar association of the city of New York," from its inception in the minds of a few individuals up to its present rich and powerful organization.

A paper by Emery Washburne, on the limitations of judicial power, was then read. At its conclusion, resolutions were adopted expressing gratification at the publicity given the proceedings of the association by the press.

A paper by Prof. Elliott, on the treatment of the guilty, was first read. The paper considers only the treatment of the convicted. On this point there are three sources of light: First, philosophy of human nature; second, teachings of religion; third, practical experience. Common sense teaches that the guilty do not cease to be human, and should, therefore, be treated as human beings. This is the substance of the whole matter. The wrong-doer is merely diseased, and only skillful treatment can cure him. He must be treated justly and impartially, with not too great tenderness however, but with consideration. Establish the proper relations, and then appeal to the same motives as you appeal to in others. Religion teaches to do as you would be done by. An application of that rule settles the whole matter. A pampering system that shrinks from just punishment is as bad as a system of overdue severity, but religion and humanity unite in demanding that the door of reformation be kept open. Experience teaches us diversity in that matter, for, unfortunately, neither humanity nor religion have been tried, and we can only guess at what the results would be. However, we may say generally that in proportion to severity, harshness and cruelty, penal laws and prison treatment have a pernicious effect, both on criminals and society at large, and in proportion as rational and humane ideas have been introduced and applied, the total amount of crime has been lessened and chances of reformation increased. Progress is slow, and reform of prison laws, and treatment of criminals outside of prison, must come only with time. Prison discipline is meant to reform as well as to punish, and to restore the criminal clothed, and in his right mind, to the world. These ideas have been partially put in practice in some institutions and success attained.

A paper by A. P. Sprague on the same subject was presented, but not read. It consists largely of data as to the responsibility of criminals.

There was an extended discussion on this subject, at the conclusion of which a paper from Dr. J. W. Hoyt, of Wisconsin, on the railroad question, was read. It affirms, and endeavors to prove, the power of the State over corporations; to show that the recent exercise of this power in ways somewhat extreme, in the western States, has not been without occasions; that the interests of all parties demand that it should be exercised with wisdom and moderation—not by fixing arbitrary rules and otherwise interfering with the details of the management, but rather by wise general provisions looking to honesty of administration; that a practical acknowledgment of the rights of the public will naturally lead to fair and friendly dealing on the part of the people; that thus the corporations have, indeed, the practical solution of the railroad question in their own hands.

It was announced that the executive committee had passed a resolution instructing the president of the association, in conjunction with four other members, selected by himself, to take measures to call an international convention of social science at Philadelphia some time during the celebration of the centennial in 1876.

After the reading of a paper by Professor William Watson on river improvements and a short debate, the general session adjourned *sine die.*

General Breckenridge's Condition More Hopeful.

LEXINGTON, KY., May 14.—The condition of General Breckenridge is unchanged. He is still free from pain, and those in attendance upon him are less apprehensive of his sudden death. He saw a few visitors to-day.

TELEGRAMS.

The Italian senate has vetoed the national donation to Garibaldi.

Six vessels were driven ashore during a gale at Leamington, Ontario, Wednesday.

There was a very large crowd at the association races in Terrehaute, Indiana, yesterday.

The steamer Vicksburg, from Liverpool, arrived at Farther Point, Canada, Thursday.

J. T. Howell, a Presbyterian minister, hung himself at Bloomington, Minnesota, last week.

The steam barges Sandusky and Superior, from Chicago, arrived at Buffalo, New York, Thursday.

The semi-annual meeting of the American gaslight association, was held in Washington Thursday.

Steamships California, from New York, and Peruvian, from Portland, arrived at Mobile, Alabama, Thursday.

Josh Frazer, colored, was hanged at Camden, South Carolina, yesterday, for the murder of Benjamin Cooper in December last.

The treasury department at Washington is still pursuing the whisky frauds, and has been quite successful in unearthing big swindling schemes in Chicago.

The assembly, in Albany, New York, yesterday, unanimously passed resolutions calling upon the government to recognize the belligerent rights of the Cubans.

Wm. Russell, aged thirty, killed his mother, and seriously wounded his father and and youngest brother, at their residence in Newbury, Massachusetts, yesterday.

A telegram from Washington says that nothing is known at the executive mansion of the reported probable resignation of Secretary Fish at the end of the present fiscal year.

Captain Eads and Colonel Andrews went out from New Orleans to the Southwest pass at the mouth of the Mississippi yesterday, and took soundings, which were highly satisfactory as to successful results.

Mr. Jefferson Davis, in an address to the Texas veterans of the Mexican war, in Houston, Texas, yesterday, entreated them to be as loyal now to the stars and stripes as they had been zealous and brave in defense of their first flag.

Captain Thornton, of the United States navy, died at Philadelphia yesterday. He was executive officer of Commodore Farragut's flagship in all the battles on the Mississippi river, and on the Keersage when she sunk the Alabama.

The secretary of the treasury was informed yesterday of additional seizures of distilleries. A searching investigation will be made into the conduct of the supervisors and other prominent internal revenue officials, and all against whom charges have been or may be preferred, with a view to secure the prompt punishment of the guilty parties engaged in the whisky frauds.

A telegram from Huntington, Pennsylvania, says that about nine hundred men and women went to the Fisher and Whitehead mines Wednesday and compelled the miners at work to suspend operations, and sacked their houses and appropriated whatever valuables they found. The strikers have become wild and ungovernable, and say that all new men must and shall leave the region.

The grand commandery of Kentucky closed their annual sesson at Paducah, on Wednesday. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Hiram Bassett, of Millersburg, G. C; Jacob Surgert, of Frankfort, D. G. C.; W. L. Thomas, of Danville, G. G.; Wm. Ryan, of Louisville, J. C. G.; Rev. Wm. Merrick, of Lexington, G. P.; W. J. Duncan, of Louisville, G. S. W.; John O. Pearce, of Maysville, G. J. W.; D. P. Rabley, of Versailles, G. T.; W. G. Stone, of Covington, G. R.; C. K. Miller, of Louisville, G. S. B.; J. W. Prewitt, of Franklin, G. S.; B. Apperson, of Mount Sterling, G. W.; A. B. Parish, of Georgetown, G. C. G.

POLITICAL.

Cameron to Succeed Fish.

The Philadelphia *City Item* goes into ecstacies over "a rumor, apparently authentic," that Simon Cameron will soon succeed Don Hamilton Fish in the department of state.

Explaining the Thing.

We fear that Mr. Murat Halstead is becoming so much of an orator that it is impossible for him to be much of an editor. These double-barreled intellectualities—so to speak—are rarely enjoyed in a large degree by one and the same person.—*St. Louis Globe.*

Free Trade Reviving.

"Gath" makes this observation on the drift of Democratic sentiment: "The free trade question is assuming a prominence it has never had since 1842-46. Kerr, Wood and Cox are all free-traders. I find Democrats of a mild type, like Congressman Ely and Ex-Congressman Roosevelt, who would not touch free trade in 1870, now radical that way.

Tilden's Chances for the Presidency.

According to a reporter of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, Beck, of Kentucky, thinks Tilden stands no chance for the Presidential nomination. "The south and west will have the naming of the candidate—you can't keep it from them if you want to—and no eastern bondholder candidate will stand any show whatever." Such is the opinion of the coming United States senator from Kentucky.

Give Him a Rest.

Senator Sargent, of California, said in a recent speech in San Francisco, that President Grant longed for rest. He means to convey the impression that he was above any third-term aspirations. Now, the rest which the President longs for is simply the retirement and blissful repose one finds at a rural retreat like Long Branch. Puts good cigar between the bearded lips of the President and place him behind a pair of high-steppers and then let him rest. A hermit life of this sort is what the over-worked whist-player of the White House hankers after.—*Fort Wayne Sentinel.*

Buying Up or Heading Off.

One of the things that the politicians would like to know is, whether the President is buying Mr. Morton up or heading him off. Both theories find adherents. From one point of view, the recent appointments from Indiana are rewards for the senatore good conduct in taking himself out of the way; from another, they are a shrewd attempt to "cut under" a formidable rival in his own State by attaching the most influential Republicans to the political fortunes of their benefactor at the White House. Time will probably show.—*Springfield Republican.*

Passing Strange.

It will doubtless appear passing strange to the majority of Tennessee readers that Missouri bonds, bearing the same rate of interest as our own, should promptly command from one of the largest banking-houses in New York ninety-nine cents on the dollar, when our Tennessee bonds cannot be sold for more than fifty cents on the dollar. Upon investigation this is easily understood. In Missouri there is no cry of repudiation, nor of scaling bonds, nor of postponing the payment of taxes or interest. Their State constitution prevents any such unprofitable resorts.—*Nashville Union and American.*

The Enforcement Act.

It has been given out that the last act of Attorney-General Williams's official life was to order the discontinuance of all prosecutions pending in the south under the enforcement act. There seems to be some mistake about this matter, as a telegram to the Chicago *Tribune*, a Republican organ, says, under date of May 9th: "Officers in the southern States have recently been removed for their neglect to carry out orders with respect to this act, as well as for general inefficiency. It is not many weeks since instructions have been sent to southern officials to carefully execute this law." *Nashville Union and American.*

The Money Power.

Whether or not the masses of the people can be corrupted, is a question that Radical tactics will put to the test this year and next. The money power will be exerted without stint, and in a thousand devious ways to perpetuate the party in power. We have seen the Chicago *Tribune* converted by direct purchase from an independent journal into a Republican organ. The present attitude of the Cincinnati *Commercial* is very peculiar. And now we are told that the Boston *Post*, an old Democratic journal, has been purchased by a young millionaire named Winslow, who is represented as an ex-minister, State senator, Radical Republican, and prohibitionist.—*Nashville Union and American.*

"Cash" Clay as a Democrat.

The Frankfort correspondent of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, in his account of the great Democratic convention at the capital of Kentucky last week, furnishes a pleasing incident of that great outpouring of Kentucky Democrats. Hon. Cassius M. Clay, one of the speakers on the occasion, was an old-line Whig who finally drifted into abolition, and, when the Republican party was born, naturally took position as one of its leaders. General Clay was not only a Whig, an abolitionist, and a Republican, but he was and is a man of brains, culture and courage. No one ever impugned the integrity or the courage of "Cash" Clay, and we commend his manly action and utterances to some of the narrow-minded gentlemen in Mississippi who are eternally telling us what the "old Whig" will *not* do.—*Vicksburg Herald.*

North Carolina Politics.

Influential North Carolina Conservatives report that the canvass just beginning in that State for a constitutional convention will be one of the sharpest that has occurred there for years, and that, while the Conservatives will probably carry the State for the convention, it will only be by hard work. The limitations placed upon the duties of the convention have removed from it many of the most serious objections that would otherwise be urged against it. The only nomination for delegates to the convention yet made by the Conservatives are in Orange county, where Ex-Governor Wm. A. Graham and Josiah Turner, jr., have been placed in the field as candidates. The former, who was nominated by acclamation, is one of the very best men in the State, and formerly stood high in national politics when the whig party were dominant. He was secretary of the navy during Fillmore's administration. Mr. Turner is the editor of the Raleigh *Sentinel*, and has been rather extreme in his views. At the same time, the outrageous treatment he has received at the hands of Radical desperadoes, has aroused a great amount of sympathy for him, and given him a popularity he would not otherwise enjoy. During the kuklux excitement he was kidnapped by Holden's militia, and subjected to the greatest indignities. His house and office were repeatedly fired into, and finally, about a month before the Presidential election in 1872, his office was blown up. The election takes place during the first week in August.—*Washington correspondence N. Y. Tribune.*

Getting Ready for the Democrats.

There is a deal of shrewdness in the manner in which the administration is preparing for its badgering. The public is always keen set for a scape-goat. The rottenness which gangrenes all of Delano's department will be a horrible revelation, but Republicans can claim with fair grace they found out the evil first and they eradicated it in eradicating the noxious cause—for Columbus Delano is certainly doomed to go out of the cabinet are another half year whirls away. With him and his miserable subordinate rogues away, there will be nobody on whom the necessary abuse can fall. The scape-goat will be lacking, and interest in the development of hidden sin falls amazingly when there is no sinner handy to take the damning. Of course this is all wrong in principle. Williams should be followed into private life and punished for his incitation of Arkansas and Alabama parodies on the name of justice. Delano should be trotted before a grand and petit jury for his participation in Indian frauds; Cresswell should be held accountable for the stealing of his post-route confreres and the tricks of associates in the patching of mail-bags swindles * * * * Grant may be only the long-headed dolt his adversaries have been trying to make themselves believe he is all these many years, but he and his more quiet advisers contrive to do the sharp things in seasons of vital peril. Uncompromising investigation is the one great thing the inner working of his administration has to fear. Yet he is shrewd enough to draw even that sting in advance. — *Washington correspondence Chicago Times.*

A Blast of War from Brownlow.

It is eighteen months before we have an election in this State for State officers, and yet we see leading Democratic journals appealing to their party leaders for harmony, and urging them to thoroughly organize for the next campaign. To read some of these effusions one would naturally suppose that the State was almost equally divided between the parties, and that a few votes would turn the scales either way. When we take into consideration the fact that Governor Porter was elected last fall by fifty thousand votes; that the last legislature contained ninety-two Democrats to eight Republicans; that the governor and all other State officers, including members of the supreme court, are all Democrats, this apparent anxiety on the part of the watchmen on the watch-towers, is surprising and unaccountable. But when we take another view it is not so surprising after all that these leaders should feel a little frightened. We read in the good book that the guilty flee, even "when no man pursueth." To suppose that Democratic politicians in Tennessee, with their frightful record, could rest entirely easy, would be equivalent to charging them with being wholly void of consciences. Some of them are dead to every sense of shame, but there are those among them who do know right from wrong, and who feel their guilt with some degree of keenness. It is these that make the appeals, and express the fears of defeat. They know that the people are acquainted with their Torbett issue swindle, the public printing and other swindles. They remember what a fearful load the last legislature will prove for any party to carry. It was the most infinitely worthless body of men, collectively considered, that ever assembled at the State capital. There were a dozen or two of good men in it, but the blatherskite, dead-beat, gas-bag element prevailed, and with all their inefficiency and general worthlessness the Democratic party must carry them. As a matter of course, there will be a reckoning. The people will not always be imposed upon thus, and it is for this reason that the drill-sergeants and the whippers-in are appealing for organization and harmony so far in advance of election day.—*Knoxville Chronicle.*

Whigs, Democrats and Conservatives.

"H. H. S.," a correspondent of the Winona *Advance*, has written a second letter to that journal in support of his proposition that our people should abandon the name of "Democrat" and adopt that of "Conservative." He argues that the hostility to the name of Democracy is so great among the people of Mississippi, that that alone constitutes an insurmountable barrier to any hope of success in any effort to rescue the State from the grasp of the spoilsmen. Speaking of the disadvantages with which the people, the taxpayers of Mississippi, have to contend, "H. H. S." says:

"Now, every intelligent person in the State well knows that we start out in this contest with a majority of from twenty to twenty-five thousand against us. We will have to recruit, and that largely from the ranks of the opposition to achieve success. Fortunately, however, for us, there are thousands of this number who have sickened at the desolation that their party has entailed upon themselves and the State, and are ready to avail themselves of any decent pretext to abandon it, and affiliate with one of retrenchment and reform. This number is made up of Conservative whites, native and adopted, and colored, the latter, of whom constitute the majority in the State, and to whom this name Democratic is not only objectionable, but truly repugnant, and I cannot say that this is greatly to be wondered at, as the unfortunate 'black code of 1865,' the result of a Democratic majority in the legislature, has been constantly held up before their eyes as a 'scare crow' by the opposition from that to the present. I thought it the part of wisdom to deprive our enemies of these weapons that they had so successfully turned against us in the past, as I am sure they now constitute the chief obstacle in the way of affiliation."

Without pausing to inquire into the validity of this claim to a Radical "majority of from twenty to twenty-five thousand" in Mississippi, not one word of which we believe, we pass on to another assertion that is utterly unfounded, and which is not sustained by the facts. "H. H. S." declares that there are large numbers in Mississippi to whom "the name Democratic is not only objectionable, but truly repugnant," and that this hostility is not "greatly to be wondered at, as the unfortunate black code of 1865, the result of a Democratic majority in the legislature," etc., etc. Now we undertake to say, that there was no Democratic majority in the legislature of 1865, nor in that of 1866 or 1867! We affirm that the government of the State of Mississippi has not been controlled by Democrats for a single hour since General Charles Clark was dragged from the executive office to a military prison in the summer of 1865! In October of that year General Ben. Humphreys was elected governor, and at the same election a new legislature was chosen. Governor Humphreys was a life-long Whig, a Union Whig, a friend and follower of Henry Clay, and in his admiration of the great commoner he swallowed, without qestion, all the political absurdities put forth by that wonderful man. A majority of the members of the legislature elected in 1865 were also old-line Union Whigs, and they signalized their accession to power by electing two Whigs to the senate of the United States. One was Hon William L. Sharkey, all his life a Union Whig, and the other was James L. Alcorn, a Whig up to the hour he degraded himself by leaping into the arms of Radicalism. The "black code" referred to by "H. H. S." with all the other obnoxious measures enacted in 1865-7, and of which the Radical press has howled so persistently ever since, was the result of a Whig "majority in the legislature," and was not the fruit of Democratic ascendancy. When the war closed, the Democrats of Mississippi—they had all favored secession—very modestly stepped to the rear. They felt that their predictions had all come to naught, that their judgments were at fault, and that it would be decent and modest to let some other people run the machine awhile. The Whigs, on the other hand—a large majority of the party was opposed to secession—had long been out of power, were very hungry, and just a little disposed to indulge in the "I told you so" sort of remark that always falls so pleasantly on the ears of a fellow who has just had a drubbing. They were not burdened with any excess of modesty, and felt entirely competent to evoke order out of chaos, and happiness and prosperity from the misery, the desolation and the poverty caused by four years of war and exhaustion. With a Whig governor and a Whig legislature, they elected four Whigs to the house of representatives in congress, James T. Harrison, of Columbus; Colonel Richard Pinson, of Pontotoc county; General A. M. West, of Holmes, and Hon. Ephram G. Peyton, of Copiah county—all Whigs—were the gentlemen chosen to represent Mississippi in the lower house of congress. Judge E. S. Fisher, a Union Whig, was the competitor of General Humphreys for governor, and he, with the newly-made senator, James L. Alcorn, and the freshly-elected representative, Ephraim G. Peyton, soon landed in the bosom of the Republican party, and each soon received his reward! The "black code" and the kindred legislation of the period, then, is chargeable to the Union Whigs, and not to the Democrats, and when the sensitive Whigs, to whom the name Democrat is so "truly repugnant," next essay to dilate upon the deformities of Democracy and the obnoxious "black code of 1865," we hope they will have the fairness to charge that code to the immaculate Union Whigs of the State, and not to the much-reviled secession Democrats.—*Vicksburg Herald.*

THE BEECHER TRIAL.

Summing Up the Next Thing in Order—Only One Week, and Then the Verdict.

NEW YORK, May 14.—Although the end of the trial was known to be very near, yet there was considerable surprise yesterday when it was suddenly announced, about five minutes before three o'clock, that the last witness had given his testimony, and the case on both sides was ready to be summed up and given to the jury. Judge Neilson exhibited unmixed satisfaction when Mr. Evarts announced that he rested the defendant's case. The counsel on both sides appeared to be relieved, and the jurymen looked at one another and smiled as if well pleased that their long confinement was so nearly over. The reporters appeared to be ready for throwing up their hats and cheering, and there were many congratulations and shaking of hands among them. Before opening the afternoon session, Messrs. Evarts and Beach sat for several minutes talking and joking with the jurymen. The subject of their conversation was the proposed adjournment. The jurymen were strongly desirous of going on with the case without adjournment, but they yielded finally to the wish of the counsel. After adjournment all the counsel on both sides assembled in Judge Neilson's room, where they had a private conference concerning the future management of the case. Beecher stood some time after the court adjourned surrounded by his friends, who shook his hand and congratulated him that the trial was so near its completion. He laughed and chatted busily, and Mrs. Beecher stood by smiling pleasantly, but speaking very little. Tilton remained standing alone for several minutes; he did not glance in the direction of the group of persons surrounding Beecher. He has been very busy with the papers in the case during the whole trial, and his face wore an expression of relief that his work was done. He left the courthouse in company with his counsel after they had finished their conference with Judge Neilson. On Wednesday morning Judge Nelson will begin to sum up for the defendant. He will occupy about two days with his argument, which will be devoted almost entirely to an analysis of the testimony. Mr. Evarts will follow him, with another two day's argument devoted to the general legal features of the case. Mr. Beach will conduct the whole final argument for the plaintiff. He will begin as soon as Mr. Evarts has finished, and will occupy about two days. It is understood that Judge Neilson's charge will not be very long, and he expects that the case will be finished the first week in June.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

Sam Randall's Chances for it—A Republican Organ on Kerr, Wood and Sam.

Washington Correspondence of the Springfield Republican.

Mr. Randall's friends here say that he will sweep the caucus for speaker; that he will get more votes than all his rivals combined. This may be a mistake, but it seems clear to me that he has been gaining ground of late. In any contingency but this the southern Democrats would not touch him; for Sam Randall is a genuine Democrat—plain, simple, and exceedingly modest in his way of life. He is no associate of southern aristocrats, and ordinarily they would not take him up. They would now greatly prefer Wood with his wealth and haughty airs, or Kerr with his intellectual coiness, but Randall is hearty, honest and exceedingly popular. Everybody likes him. He is smart, and would make a good presiding officer, understanding, as he does, parliamentary law better than any other Democrat in the new house. But, politically, the Democrats would do better to take Kerr, unless Randall's personal popularity can make itself felt throughout the country where he is not known. For it is everywhere known that he was an active advocate of back pay, taking it most thankfully. He has very moderate notions for a Democrat in regard to southern affairs. He believes in the sacredness of the national debt, and in giving the colored people equal rights. In regard to the currency he is sound, believing in specie payments as soon as the thing is possible.

RACE NEWS.

The Day's Sport at Lexington, Ky., and Terre Haute, Ind.

AT TERRE HAUTE, IND.

TERRE HAUTE, May 14.—The fourth day of the races was attended by near five thousand persons. The track was in the best possible condition. In the pacing race Granger won in three straight heats. Time, 2:29, 2:25½, 2:26½. In the second race Harry Mitchell won in three straight heats. Time, 2:32, 2:31½, 2:31½, 2:31½.

AT LEXINGTON.

LEXINGTON, KY., May 14.—The races over the association course to-day were more largely attended than on any day during the meeting. The ladies' stand was thronged, the weather was superb, and the track very fair. In the first race, a two mile dash, there were seven entries, Broeck and Chesspeake being the favorites. The former was badly beaten. The latter beat the field by a hard run in 3:37½. The second race, a dash of one mile and a half, was a walk over for Robinson & Morgan's bay colt Astral. The third race, a dash of three-fourths of a mile, the favorite, M'Grath's Calvin, beat the field easily, in the excellent time of 1:16½.

The Vicksburg Quarries.

From the Vicksburg Herald, May 9th.]

Captain James Eads, the New Orleans jetty man, and Captain James Andrews, contractor, were passengers on the steamer Great Republic yesterday, and while here explored the ledge of rock lying along the river bank between this city and the national cemetery, with a view to quarrying for the jetties at the mouth of the Mississippi river. Captain J. J. Powers, of Powers's oil-mill, who was a whilom friend and acquaintance of Captain Eads, piloted the jetty contractors and furnish them with the report of Prof. Hilgard, State geologist. Captains Eads and Andrews gathered some specimens of the rock to take along with them, and while on their way down the river will study Prof. Hilgard's report of the situation and extent of the bed of rock and at the same time examine the specimens. Captain Andrews will return in a few days and make further explorations, and if the rock is found in sufficient quantity and not too difficult to quarry by reason of a superabundance of clay, it is probable that a large force of quarry-men will be set to work on it very soon, and thus Vicksburg will reap some benefit from the fat government contract known as the Eads jetty plan for deepening the mouth of the Mississippi river.

THE CINCINNATI FESTIVAL.

The Rush Equal to the Previous Days' Performances—Another Matinee and Evening Performance.

The Performers Greeted with Loud Applause, and Thomas Treated to an Ovation.

CINCINNATI, May 14.—There was the same rush of people at this afternoon's performance that has characterized those of the previous days. Every seat was filled, and many were compelled to stand. Promptly at the moment Mr. Thomas mounted the stand, and without an instant's delay the opening piece, Beethoven's overture, "Consecration of the House," began. It was given by the orchestra in their usual faultless manner. "In Questa Tamba," was sung in excellent style by Mr. Whitney. An aria, "Love Song," from Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro," sung by Mis Whitney, was given with great feeling and tenderness. The aria from Orpheus's "Che Fard Senza Euridice," sung by Miss Emma Cranch, was an excellently fine rendition of this very beautiful piece of melody. This was followed by a portion of the third act of Wagner's *Meister Singer Von Nuernberg*, consisting of the introduction, Walther's prize song, sung by Mr. Bischoff and an overture, the first and last portions rendered by the orchestra. This composition of Wagner's, although differing materially from either the "Tannhauser" or "Lohengrin," is filled with bold ideas, marvellous harmony and delightful passages, and shows a wonderful fertility in the production of new and startling effects, without injury to the harmony. The aria from "The Prophet," "Oh, Give to Save a Poor Soul," brought to Miss Carey's feet the grand ovation of the day, and repeated calls and long-continued applause brought her several times smilingly to the front, each appearance becoming the signal for fresh shouts and bursts of applause. Mr. Whitney came next in rank for favors when he followed with the charming aria "O Ruddier than the Cherry," from Handel, which he gave with great spirit and vivacity, and was rewarded with a burst of approval only excelled by that given Miss Carey. Liszt's "Rhapsodie Hongroise," No. 2, was an exquisite work of art delightfully interpreted by the orchestra; and the closing piece of the matinee, a quartette from Verdi, sung by Mrs. Smith, Miss Carey, and Messrs. Bischoff and Whitney, was a fitting *finale* for one of the most delicious matinees of the season.

In the evening another house of gratifying proportions greeted the musicians. There were no crowded aisles but every seat was filled, and an unbroken sea of faces was presented to the stage. Better order prevailed and Thomas was spared the agony of a noisy audience. Schubert's Ninth Symphony in C, was the first given. There was a marked difference between this and Beethoven's Ninth Sympathy of the evening previous, each possessing its many excellencies and maintaining the distinctive individuality of their composers. The rendition was faultless in the extreme, and the loud applause greeting the different members was most worthily and heartily bestowed at the close. At the close Mr. Thomas was treated to an ovation by the delighted audience. Next came the last selection from Wagner on the season's programme, two portions from the "Walkure Wotou's Farewell to Brunhilde," and the magic fire scene. This opened at the point where the "Walkure," having yielded to the entreaties of Brunhilde, endeavored to conceal her, and Woton, in his wrath, bursts upon them from a thunder-cloud. The effect of the music upon the audience was of the most startling and realistic character, enchaining the audience to the closest attention. The vocal part was given by Mr. Franz Remmertz in a magnificent manner, and was a thoroughly artistic rendering of this grand theme.

PREPARATIONS AT INDIANAPOLIS.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 14.—The preparations for the three days musical festival to be held here next week are fully completed. The event promises to be a worthy successor to the Cincinnati festival. The solo singers are Mrs. Smith,