THE TRUE POLICY OF THE DEMOCRACY.

Democrats should keep aloof from the Cincinnati Convention, and have nothing to do with it. It is an affair exclusively Republican. When it shall have acted, it will be the business of the Democracy to pronounce upon it. If the Democrats like its men and its principles well enough to go for them, all right. If not, they will be free to nominate their own men. In the first case, it will be a fight with Grant against the field. In the second case, it will be the united Democracy against two Republican tickets. In every aspect in which the situation can be presented there is not discernible a solitary reason in favor of Democratic passivity, or thought of Democratic disbandment. Ten years ago the Democratic party was beaten by just such a split as has now taken place in the Radical party. The Democracy had two candidates, Breckenridge and Douglas. The Radicals never dreamed then of passiveism as a wise policy. They rallied and concentrated their strength, and beat a divided antagonist. The Democracy has now changed places with them, and now we hear advice from pretended Democrats to get out of the way and lie low, until one of the wings of a divided enemy gets in position to command their votes. And on what ground are the Democrats counselled to be the tail of the Liberal Republican kite? Why, on the ground that in sloughing off from Radicalism they have fallen back to entrench themselves on a substantially Democratic platform. It is plain that every plank of principle that this party assumes to distinguish it from Administration Radicalism is a Democratic principle. And so they invade our political territory, occupy our castles, and drive us from the presence of our household gods, and command us to support them as the self-appointed representatives of our own political principles. It is a cool proceeding—an audacious proceeding—and only made possible of achievement by a systematic decrial of the strength and vitality of the Democracy. We are told that the Democratic party has had its day, played its part on the stage, and in its fullness of time has died a natural death. A greater falsehood was never uttered; for never before did the maladies of the country more sorely stand in need of the medicaments of Democratic principles. With a Constitution wounded and battered, and sick unto death, who are its more appropriate doctors than the men of a Constitutional party? The very Radical split now before us gives the lie to the thought that Democratic principles are effete and the Democratic party a fossil. Carl Schurz and his friends are clinging to that very rock of constitutional Democracy, which we are told has been pulverized into nothingness by the crushing events of the war. No true friend of the Democracy, or of genuine free government has yet said so. While a patch or shred of the same constitution remains the party that has built its creed upon it has a life to live, a duty to perform, and a mission to move. That party is the venerable and veteran Democracy, as old as the government, twin-born with the great charter of '89, and destined to life coeval with it. And now in view of its present golden opportunity, when the strength of its mortal enemy is falling to pieces from its own inherent rottenness and corruption, and when the people are anxiously looking for some firm ground of political truth, honesty and safety upon which to plant their imperiled government, let no Democrat listen to any word of discouragement from the lips of timid and croaking friends, or enemies in the guise of friends. The plain duty of the Democracy is to be under arms, to double its guards, with its army eyes and ears wide open, to watch and wait in readiness to strike the blow for victory whenever and wherever the opening presents itself in the present momentous campaign. An army of observation ready to strike, is a very different thing from the army disintegrated and disbanded which the "Passivists" would make of the Democracy.—*Mobile Register.*

THE SNAKE DANCE.—What do you think of a young lady dancing with a snake—a great six-foot snake, wound around her neck? They do it at Niblo's. And it is a real snake. It hasn't eaten anything in three months. It only eats twice a year. Then it gorges itself to last. When it does eat, they say it moves like lightening, and devours anything within its reach. A beautiful girl—Sassi is her name—lifts the reptile from the urn and coils it around her neck; yes, lays it against her naked bosom! Now she dances with it in the air, while the snake darts out its tongue between two eyes which seem to spit fire. The audience is transfigured with horror, and they feel relieved when Sassi finally goes through the pantomime as if she were charmed and then bitten by the snake. Falling on the floor, the audience shudder for fear the snake has really bitten her, and the snake is left in a coil upon the stage. They say this beautiful girl is curiously affected by the snake. She goes off the stage unconcerned, but she breathes as if she had gone through a trying ordeal—just escaping death. She breathes fast, a hectic flush is upon her cheek, and cold drops of sweat stand upon her forehead. By and by, after vigorous fanning, the beautiful Coryphee is restored, the snake is coiled up in a box in Harry Palmer's office, and the glory of the "Black Crook" goes on.

WALKING ON THE WATER.—Recently, says a Paris correspondent, a boatman for a wager crossed the Seine on foot at a point opposite the Institute. He wore wooden shoes of great length, and carried an oar to balance himself. Thus equipped he passed safely from one block of ice to another, although the current of the river was not completely stopped. The feat was one which few men living have ever seen accomplished. The joy of the victor was somewhat damped by his being arrested on reaching the shore by policemen, who were of opinion that he had transgressed rules. He was taken by the zealous agents before a commissary of police, who, of course, released him.

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