THE CAMPAIGN OPENED.

Speech of Hon. John B. Foliett at Batavia.

The Bad Record of the Republican Party Exposed to View.

The Republican party has long boasted of its record, to which, as a stereotyped portion of its platform, it "points with pride." So long have these words stood alongside of the equally trite words in its platform, "grand old party," that outsiders have been perplexed to determine whether to designate it as the g. o. p. or p. w. p. No honest citizen, no friend of free government, which can be maintained and perpetuated only by strict adherence to constitutional obligations and strict enforcement of constitutional rights and guarantees, no man who deprecates open and shameless violation of law and a reckless disregard of the Constitution for purely partisan purposes will point with pride to the record made by that party in the State of Ohio in the later years, and especially in the last two years. It is far from pleasant for one whose interests are identified with this State, who is proud of the State, of its position and achievements, to scrutinize the acts of the leaders of the Republican party of Ohio during the past two years and review the record it has made. That record, indelibly stamped upon the proceedings of both branches of the Legislature, characterizing every Executive act and interlacing every Executive order which it was supposed could in any wise affect or serve to promote the interests of the Republican party, ratified, sanctioned and approved by the Republican judges of our highest courts, who are bound by their office and their oaths to support, conserve and defend the constitution, and to uphold and maintain the laws made in pursuance thereof, is such a record, as every true patriot would gladly erase with his tears, and, if necessity requires, with his blood.

I do not propose at this time to review the record of the Republican party of Ohio as made in 1884, through the instrumentality of Lot Wright and his thugs, called Deputy Marshals, armed with British bull-dog revolvers and other like quiet, orderly and peaceful instrumentalities, for preserving the purity of elections. Some of the men who planned and instigated that outrage upon the ballot-box, that concentrated essence of all political villainies, are now feasting upon the pander of the people, thus consummated, but most of them are now festering and rotting in their political graves. The willing tool, the zealous instrument employed for the consummation of that infamy, is now folded in the bosom of the Republican party of Warren County, where at each primary election of the party his fine Italian hand is seen, the peculiar methods taught him by the party leaders are developed, and the only consolation honest patriots can feel is in the fact that, either he, or the Republican party, in that county so long and largely in the ascendant, must soon die, unless it be true that the party there thrives and fattens on corruption. The success of the Democratic party at the national election in 1884, the wisdom and earnest patriotic devotion to the methods and practices of good government, shown by President Cleveland in the very beginning of his Administration, and the cordial approval of the great mass of the people, of his declared policy to inaugurate and enforce efficiency, honesty and economy, as the prevailing principle by which each of the Executive Departments should be governed, and honesty and capacity as essential requisites for positions of trust under his Administration, seems to have had the effect of so alarming the leaders of the Republican party, while contemplating certain dissolution, as to completely deprive them of discretion, and what little wisdom they may have had in times past and to impel them to such excesses and to such acts of folly and madness as should drive from the support of the party every intelligent, honest, patriotic, fair-minded Republican. And such would be the result of the disregard of law, the violation of the constitution and the trampling under foot of the rights of the people which have characterized and infamously immortalized the acts of the present Republican Legislature, enacted and inaugurated in a great measure by the Republican Chief Executive and leaders of the party, and approved and emphasized by the Republican judiciary, were it not that the cardinal principle of the Republican creed is that "the end justifies the means," and laws, constitutions, the rights of the people, the most cherished and sacred safeguards of liberty, are to be brushed away like cobwebs which partisan ends are to be obtained.

It is in this view, and this view alone, that we are able to account for and trace to their origin the opinions of our Courts to which I have alluded, and to understand the real motive that brought them forth. Men honest in all other things, and at all times, who can hold and balance the scales of justice with a firm and steady hand, and can apply the settled and inflexible rules of law, without favor or partiality, though to do so may be detrimental to the interests of their dearest personal friends, when the interests of their party are involved, and they hear the crack of the party whip and the ominous threat of the party leaders and press, make haste to show their party fealty by obeying party behests.

The darkest forboding to our free representative Government comes under the utter destruction of the confidence of the people in the proper decision of any case in which partisan questions or partisan interests are involved. Prior to the organization of the Electoral Commission, upon which sat six Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, upon whose judgment, integrity and assumed ability the people relied for an impartial and just determination of the momentous questions involved, the people reposed implicit confidence in the integrity of the judiciary and the ability and determination of our Judges to impartially administer the law and uphold and defend the Constitution against all assaults by whomsoever or howsoever made. Then, and since then, the judicial ermine has often been so worn as readily and promptly to be laid aside at the solicitation of partisan autocrats until it has come to be regarded by the masses of the people as scarcely deserving their confidence and respect.

At the last October election in this State the returns, as made to the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of Hamilton County, showed that the ten Democratic candidates for members of the House of Representatives and the four Democratic candidates for the Senate had been elected.

This result left the Republicans a majority of six in the House and gave the Democrats a majority of three in the Senate, and on joint ballot the Republicans had a majority of three.

As soon as the fact was known the Republican National Committee employed two able lawyers and the Lincoln Club, of Cincinnati, and numerous other Republicans employed numerous other lawyers to defeat, if possible, the declaration of the result, as shown by the returns made by the proper officers of election, by the Canvassing Board, and the issuing of certificates of election to those shown to be entitled to them by the results of such canvass.

The statute under which the board of canvassers acted expressly says that they "in making the abstract of votes shall not go behind upon the validity of the return, but shall be governed by the number of votes stated in the poll-book."

Notwithstanding the fact that the law governing the canvass board was thus explicit and was an absolute prohibition upon their performing or attempting to perform any function other than the mere ministerial duty of abstracting and adding up the returns as made, and before said board these eminent lawyers attempted by proceedings, in mandamus, to investigate the validity of the returns, hear testimony, sit in judgment and decide, but with specific instructions to decide in a certain way.

It is not my purpose at this time, nor is this the occasion, to discuss the legal questions involved in the case of Dalton vs. Richards in reported in 43 O. S. R.

That decision will stand as a monument to the wisdom, the integrity and the legal ability of the judge concurring in it long after the names and works of the partisan blackguards who traduced them for rendering that opinion shall have been forgotten.

There is, however, one strange, significant, inexplicable and startling fact connected with the dissenting opinion in that case, which, in view of what preceded and what followed the rendition of that opinion, should seriously and indelibly impress every honest, thinking patriot.

The opinion of Judges of our Supreme Court, which are published, are carefully prepared and read over to all the Judges in the consultation room before they are given to the press or the public.

This dissenting opinion, so prepared, and I doubt not so read to the other Judges in consultation-room, was given to the public December 15, 1885, and was soon thereafter published in numerous newspapers and law journals.

What was in that dissenting opinion must have been placed there by the dissenting Judge, must have been carefully reread and revised by him before it was read by him to his brethren on the Bench, so that just what it contained he must have known, and it must have been just what he wanted, and as he wanted it before it came into possession of the public. As thus announced by him the last paragraph was as follows:

"In conclusion, my regret at this decision is deeper than can be expressed in words. It is an apparent, if not a real sanction, to frauds of a most atrocious character—crimes, that if continued, will ultimately sap and destroy our representative form of government.

"It is no comfort to say that a contest by the Senate of Ohio furnishes an adequate remedy, especially since by counting these frauds the party benefitted thereby gets the control of the body which sits in judgment on the contest. They obtain their certificates by means of fraud and forgery; this entitles them to become members of the contesting body.

"This entitles them to sit and vote in their own cases, or the cases of each other, and it would be a miracle if they or those who affiliate with them politically should surrender control of the Senate by ousting themselves, however strong the case may be for the contestants.

"Such a thing is unheard of in a contest by a political body when a successful contest would surrender the control of that body to its political opponents."

This opinion, as I have said, was rendered December 15, 1885, about two weeks before the Legislature met, and doubtless before the eminent judge had heard from that great legal light—that star of the first magnitude in the galaxy of jack-o-lanterns, the phosphorescent exhalations from corruption and decay, and produced only in swamps, marshes, and cesspools; that man thoroughly indoctrinated with the modern Republican idea that official oaths, parliamentary rules and statutory and constitutional law should never arrest or restrain the consummation of a partisan design, who by the grace of a misguided, deceived and deluded people has been permitted to rattle around in the seat of Lieutenant Governor of this great State, and who has been fawned upon and flattered by the vultures of his party, who, while they despised him, knew that by tickling his vanity they could use him as they desired until his little mind is greatly perplexed by the attempt to solve the problem whether the Almighty created him or he created the Almighty. The announcement of the rule of law, by the Republican Judge, in an opinion pronounced by Republican papers and partisan leaders as sound and invulnerable, that "the certificates of election entitled the Hamilton County Senators not only to become members of the contesting body, but also entitled them to sit and vote in their own cases or the cases of each other," was an insurmountable obstacle to the rape of the Senate so necessary to the complete consummation of the objects desired. That rule of law, as we have stated, was announced after full and careful deliberation, and with full understanding of all that is implied, for it was upon the fact that such was the effect of holding the certificate that the jurisdiction of the Court in mandamus was predicated and urged by the eminent lawyers retained by the National Republican Committee and others. In the face of this opinion what honest, intelligent man could fall to be indignant at the rulings of the roaring lilliput, styled Lieutenant Governor, that although the Senators from Hamilton County holding the certificates of election had become members of the Senate, they were not entitled "to sit and vote in their own cases or the cases of each other."

The only revenge for such rulings we could take upon His Insignificancy was the fact that before the journal of the Senate containing such ruling could be published, the volume of the Supreme Court reports containing the dissenting opinion would be published, and in this way the foot of the great Justice would crush the lilliput.

Imagine, then, the surprise and disgust naturally and necessarily felt when, about the 1st of June, the volume of reports containing this dissenting opinion came out, we found that all the latter part of it, commencing with the words "this entitles them to sit and vote in their own cases and in the cases of each other," had been left out.

Upon this astounding discovery of the mutilation of this opinion for partisan ends, who would not adopt its language and say, "My regret at this decision is deeper than can be expressed in words?"

"It is an apparent, if not a real, sanction to frauds of the most atrocious character, crimes that if continued will ultimately destroy our representative system of Government."

Whether frauds were or were not committed in the City of Cincinnati at the October election, 1885, in any rational point of view has become a question of secondary importance.

If frauds were committed, they were committed by individuals and by those assuming to be members of each of the parties, and to counteract the effect of such frauds, to undo the wrong thereby done and restore to the party or to the individual citizen all that had been lost by such alleged frauds, abundant provision was made by law, and to punish those guilty of any such frauds the criminal statutes of this State made ample provisions.

A representative Government must ever rest for its safety and perpetuity upon written constitutions and their strict observance by the law-making department of the Government and their firm, unbiassed enforcement by the Judiciary.

The ten Democratic members from Hamilton County rece ved their certificates of election and were sworn in as members of the House of Representatives at the beginning of the session, and, under the constitution of this State, and the laws made in pursuance thereof, they could be ousted of their seats only upon contest made and prosecuted in pursuance of the provisions of the law, and in which both parties to the contest should have full, complete and untrammeled opportunity to be heard.

The constitution makes each House "judge of the election, returns and qualifications of its own members," but to prevent the practice adopted by the House of Representatives in the matter of the contest of the seats of the Hamilton County members the constitution requires that "the General Assembly shall determine by law, before what authority and in what manner the trial of contested elections shall be conducted."

In pursuance of this provision of the Constitution, laws were passed and in force at the time of the organization of the present General Assembly, settling definitely, as it had been settled for years in this State, who were entitled to be sworn in as members.

The Republicans, having a majority of six at the organization of the House, in papable, wanton violation of the provisions of the constitution and the laws regulating the manner of the trial of the contested elections of its members, without trial or any pretense of a trial, without hearing or any opportunity to be heard, without even the formalities or decencies usually accorded by Judge Lynch, who glories in the fact that he holds his Court not under but in defiance of law, in the first days of the session ousted nine members from Hamilton County and seated nine others in their place.

Every man who participated in this outrage was guilty of a more reprehensible, corrupting, debasing and criminal violation of the law than any alleged to have occurred at the October election in Cincinnati.

They occupied the position of law-makers, and posed as defenders of the constitution, of the sacred heritage of liberty, of a pure and uncorrupted ballot, upon the preservation and fostering of all which in their purity and integrity we can only rely for the preservation of free government and the protection of the people's rights; but they, without misgiving or hesitation, brushed aside as worthless and of no validity the constitution and the means prescribed by law for purging the ballot of fraud and ascertaining the will of the people, and thereby perpetrated a fraud in comparison with which all the frauds they allege, if proved, would be of little consequence.

When passion maliciously incited shall cease to rule, and reason asserts her sway, admitting all that has been alleged of Fourth Ward, the crime and atrocity of the House of Representatives, committed as it was with deliberation, premeditation and malice was far more reprehensible and deplorable in its consequences.

The question is not what would have been the result of a trial of the contests in the manner prescribed by law, but it is the destructive, disrupting, disintegrating effect upon the people of a wanton disregard of the law by men chosen to be law-makers, whatever the motives may be that actuated them.

Leaders in the party—men who were assumed to have such influence as would enable them to stay this action of the House of Representatives when it was first foreshadowed—were appealed to to save the State this foul disgrace, but such appeals were made in vain.

To-day the party leaders glory in their shame, and proudly brand aloft the dagger reeking in the blood of the assassinated constitution. The Senate, though proceeding with more deliberation in the consideration of the contests from Hamilton County, was equally unmindful of constitutional restrictions and inhibitions. I have already alluded to the characteristic rulings of the parliamentary monstrosity who presided over the sessions of the Senate—such rulings as no man fit to preside over such a body or who had any character or reputation to sustain would dare make.

His vanity and pride are greatly elated at the thought that he has done what no respectable man would do, and that his nerve was sufficient for the accomplishment of the vilest work, thereby emphasizing the truth that "fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

As an individual it is of little importance what his rulings were, as no one would ever imperil his reputation by citing them as precedents, but as the instrument, the mouthpiece of his party and its leaders his rulings are significant.

The constitution declares "each House, except as otherwise provided in this constitution, shall choose its own officers, may determine its own rules of proceedings," etc. The Senate determined its rules of proceedings, which he willfuly and flagrantly violated, set at defiance all parliamentary rules and precedents, disregarded the constitutional and legal rights of members, and used his position and office for base, malignant, partisan purposes.

It is not my purpose now to discuss whether the majority of the Senators did right or wrong in refusing longer to submit to the rulings and insults of this fellow who prides himself on nothing so much as being a boaster, and therefore withdrew from their places in the Senate and remained absent therefrom and left the Senate without a quorum.

The Constitution defines what a quorum shall be, as follows: "A majority of all the members elected to each House shall be a quorum to do business; but a less number may adjourn from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members in such manner, and under such penalties, as shall be prescribed by law."

With this plain constitutional provision confronting them, the Republican members of the Senate and their presiding officer, in execution of an agreement and conspiracy on their part, entered into in caucus to disregard their oaths of office and violate the Constitution on the 8th day of May, 1886, every man participating, knowing that there was "no quorum to do business" present, proceeded to have written in a book which they had the temerity to entitle the Journal of the Senate, the passage of a resolution ousting the four Senators from Hamilton County from their seats and putting four other men in their places.

There are some provisions of the constitution, as every lawyer knows, that are held by our courts to be "directory in their character, the observance of which, by the Assembly, is secured by their sense of duty and official oaths, and not by any supervisory power of the courts," but the only directory provisions of the Constitution are such as relate to modes prescribed, and to the authority conferred.

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When we consider that written constitutions are the only barriers to the encroachments of power, the only charters of the people's liberties, and that the supervisory power of the court is the only means of securing their observance, and that this means has proved to be but a broken reed in the hands of partisan judges, we may well exclaim: "Great God, on what a slender thread hang the cherished rights of the people, the destinies of the State."

Let all the people of the State read and ponder the dissenting opinion of Chief Justice Owen, in the case of Ohio ex rel-Herron vs. Smith, and especially this part of it:

"If seventeen members could transact such business so could seven, or any less number. Indeed, let it once be established that a plain provision of the constitution can be subverted or wholly disregarded by such means as it is here admitted were employed, and it is vain to speculate upon what may not be accomplished in an effort to contravene the organic law of our State.

"In this case the court is called upon to consider a radically new question. It is credited to the legislative departments of the States that no court of last resort, or any one of them, has ever been required to deal with such a question.

"The industrious research of counsel has failed to produce a case, and it will be observed that not one is cited by the majority of the court which tends in the slightest degree to support the extraordinary proposition here contended for.

"To apply the cases cited and relied upon it is necessary to assume an entirely different state of facts from those which appear in this case.

"Cases are found supporting the principle that courts will not inquire into the motives which prompted the enactment of a law. Their soundness will not be questioned. They all presuppose full authority to act. Here there was entire absence of authority.

"If the position reached by the majority be tenable, these startling conclusions follow. When both branches of the General Assembly possessing undoubted authority to act, and acting in good faith, overstep in the slightest degree the limitations of the Constitution in the attempt to enact a law, this court is clothed with abundant authority to overturn it and declare it a nullity; but where less than a quorum of a single branch, utterly without authority to act, by a scheme of conspiracy and fraud unparalleled in the history of legislation, overthrow and disregard a plain command of the constitution, and cause a false, spurious and pretended Journal to make that appear which was not and could not be done, this Court—the Court of last resort in this State—which has ever been regarded as the last refuge of a broken constitution, is compelled to confess itself helpless and powerless to do more or less than ratify and sanction the great public wrong, by pronouncing upon its solemn approval."

The object of thought to be accomplished by thus regarding and violating laws, the constitution, judicial oaths and rights of the people, was the desire to obtain the control of certain offices, with the spoils of which they might feed the vultures of the party.

As soon as they had stepped over the grave of the constitution into the control of the Senate no time was suffered to elapse until, so far as in their power to do so, Democrats were displaced from office and Republicans substituted, and in Cincinnati a board having almost absolute control of its municipal affairs, of its streets, sewers, water-works and its finances, vested with veto power over the city council, a purely municipal board elected by this people, having charge of the affairs of the people of the city, and that should be responsible to the city, in whose acts the State has no special concern, and for whose acts the State can in no way be held responsible; this board, elected by the people, who are affected by, and responsible for, its acts, was abolished and another substituted in its place with equal powers, appointed by the Governor, in no way answerable to the people, who are responsible for its acts.

That the people can not and should not be trusted has long been the theory of the leaders of the Democratic party, but never before have the leaders of that party in this State dared to carry it so fully into practice.

That the people can be trusted with far more safety than a partisan Republican Governor, is fully and satisfactorily demonstrated by a comparison of the two boards.

The people may make mistakes, and if they do they make haste to correct them. Some Governors fancy they are infallible, and hence, however serious may be their mistakes, no correction is made. The present Governor has done more foolish things, made more mistakes in the seven months he has strutted in this office than the people have made in as many years.

Aside then from the fact that in a representative government the people have a right to choose those who are entrusted with their affairs, and the control and management of their property, they are safer and more reliable than Governors are likely to be, certainly more so than are elected by the majority of the court which tends in the slightest degree to support the extraordinary proposition here contended for.

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If a Board of Public Affairs can be appointed for Cincinnati, and the Republican members of the Supreme Court say it can, the next move on the part of a Republican Legislature in this State will be to pass a law authorizing the Governor to appoint mayors and city councils for such cities of the State as have Democratic mayors and councils. Let those who trample on the people's necks, deluded by the idea that they are too stupid or lethargic to resent, beware, for when the people rise in their might they will shake them off and crush them as they would the vermin that irritate and annoy them.

Through the combined and harmonious action of the Republican members of the legislative, Executive and judicial departments of the present State Government, Republicans are now attempting to grow themselves upon public plunder, as is shown by an empty treasury, increased indebtedness and increased taxation.

In their imagined security they have said to themselves they have the offices and can regale themselves on public plunder at the expense of the people for years to come, but at the first opportunity the people will hurl them from power and teach them that they who disregard laws and violate constitutions are unworthy of public trusts and can no longer be servants of theirs.

The issues in the coming campaign are not between the Democratic party as such and the Republican party, but between the people in defense of the laws, the constitution and the heritage of freedom and the Republican party. In such a contest the people can not fail:

"For freedom's battle once begun,
Bequeathed by bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft, is ever won."

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You and I, as the people of Ohio, have entered into a solemn compact, ratified in the form of the Constitution of your State, prescribing the limits of power and fixing the rights of the people. When that constitution is looked upon as a thing to be despised and spurned—when, as I said, all the representatives of a great political party agree to violate it and set it at naught, the time has come when men who believed in free Government and the perpetuation of a representative Government should band together to teach them that there is no provocation—there is no occasion—there can be no occasion—that justifies the violation of the organic law of the State, or the violation of the rights of the people as contained therein. [Applause.]

—For some time past there has been brought before the observation of a certain class of commercial people a very interesting product consisting of extremely thin and slender shavings of wood, that are comparable to paper cut for packing, and that go by the name of "wood wool." This product was first introduced into France as a packing material. It weighs about forty or fifty per cent. less than the materials generally used for such a purpose. Its beautiful appearance, its fineness and its extreme cleanliness at once brought it into favor.—*N. Y. Herald.*

—The agricultural statistics of Ireland for 1885 show that the total acreage under crop was 4,957,127 acres, of which 1,594,903 acres were under corn, beans and peas, 797,296 acres of potatoes, 296,984 acres of turnips, 108,147 acres of flax, and 2,034,768 acres under meadow and clover grass. The total produce raised was 1,467,423 bushels of wheat, 30,222,795 bushels of corn; potatoes, 3,175,738 tons; turnips, 3,551,783 tons; beet root, 499,730 tons; cabbages, 397,708 tons; meadow and clover grass, 4,156,095 tons.

—James Meyer, Jr., of Kingston, was raking hay with a wire horse rake drawn by a mule. The mule stepped in a bees' nest with the usual results. When the bees got through with the mule and the mule stopped running, Mr. Meyer, who had been spending most of the time with the hay among the rake teeth, found himself nearly devoid of clothing, but quite covered with scratches and bruises.—*N. Y. Sun.*

HE DISCRIMINATES.

The Colored Man Knows When He Is Justly Treated and When He Is Being Used as a Tool—Another Proposed "Exodus."

Leaders of the Republican party never forget the negro, wherever his vote is to be had. The individual choice of the colored voter passes for nothing if he does not vote the Republican ticket. In Southern States he is either a Republican voter or he is nothing. If he chooses to vote the other ticket he gets no credit. If, in the South, he feels that he can best serve his local government by voting the Democratic ticket, he does it, waxes fat, and enjoys the profit of his right to labor and earn. The negro with his local habitation has the right of all Americans to say just what he will do politically for his own benefit.

But Mr. Blaine, in his speeches in Maine, where a negro is rarely seen, declares that the colored man shall not only vote the Republican ticket by virtue of his inheritance of freedom, but that he shall vote it under any and all circumstances — local considerations and influences to the contrary notwithstanding. And if he does not choose to do that he must be colonized into other territory.

The plan of the Republican Congressional Committee, as announced, is too absurd to be authentic, but if it be true that negroes are to be sent, at the committee's expense, to populate certain territories in the hope that their votes will be felt in Presidential and Congressional elections to follow, it reflects but little credit upon the men who have projected the scheme. We have had one negro exodus from the South. It invaded Kansas a few years ago. Every colored man believed that he was to get forty acres. He came with his family and landed at the railway depot without a cent. He seemed to care nothing about how he was to fare. His idea was that Kansas, acting through its Plumbs and its other patriots, was to give him a farm. For five years or more those negro exodusters have fought fate. Kansas cities have more waiters, bootblacks, calciminers, barbers, shoe repairers and clothes dusters than any State in the Union, and their votes have only gone to swell a majority already large.

The home of the Southern negro is in the South. There he was born and reared; there are the local traditions and family instincts that root him to the soil. The Northern politician of the Blaine stamp who seeks his vote may talk of colonization and all that, but the Southern colored man knows where he lives. He knows he is no longer a slave; he knows that the second generation, of which both he and his employer are types, have long ago forgotten asperities. The man and his employer work together in the field and at the polls—they work for a common interest. If that interest does not quite meet the views of Mr. Blaine and his friends, it is not the fault of the colored man. Mr. Blaine and his friends can gain nothing by colonizing negroes anywhere. Sooner or later the colonizationists absorb the political ideas and views of their surroundings; and it is the highest proof of the colored man's intelligence that he can and does discriminate. When he finds he is being used for political purposes without corresponding benefit or credit to himself, he quickly draws the line.—*Chicago Herald.*

PRESS PARAGRAPHS.

——A Philadelphia editor who has just been visiting Mr. Blaine tells an interviewer: "Understand me, James G. Blaine does not seek the nomination, for he told me so." This is a rare case, indeed, of journalistic innocence and credulity.—*Chicago Times.*

——Considering the horrible failure Blaine made in the brief time he was running the foreign policy of the Government, Democrats can regard his assaults upon the foreign policy of the present Administration with equanimity.—*Cleveland Plaindealer.*

——The Republicans of Indiana want the purity of the ballot-box maintained. It will be recalled to mind that several regiments of soldiers from other States voted in nearly every ward in Indianapolis under the direction of the Republican committee, during the war.—*Buffalo Times.*

——By the way, was it not James G. Blaine who some time ago said he had retired from politics and was going to devote the rest of his time to literary labors? Since the laboring men of Maine have concluded to oppose his candidates it appears that it would have been better for Mr. Blaine if he had kept this promise.—*Chicago News.*

——On the 4th of next March William Mahone steps down and out of the Senate never to return. There have been men in this country who, in their day and generation, felt the full weight of the people's scorn and hatred, but not one among them all ever sounded the depths of misery that Mahone is destined to reach.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

——It is astonishing that bright Republican correspondents should scour the South in all directions, diligently interview the negroes, and still hear never a word about the Freedmen's Bank, or the old forty-acres-and-a-mule confidence game. It is suspected that those interviews are very ably and carefully edited before they are printed.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

——Perhaps the hope lingers in the minds of some Republican politicians that there is no more victory in the waves of the bloody shirt, but out among the people it is plain that the old era of sectional or race politics has passed away entirely, and that hereafter the national contests must be decided on national issue, and not on sectional animosities.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

The President's Good Reasons.

President Cleveland, in giving his reasons for pardoning a man the other day, mentions one reason which is not sufficiently considered by any of us.

"He has served five years," said the President, "and whatever good is ever to be wrought upon him individually has already been accomplished. At the time of his conviction his wife, a noble, courageous and devoted woman, and five small children, were the sufferers for his crime, and exacted the sympathy of the entire community. By her patient, hard labor to support her children, and her never-failing hope in the darkest days, this wife has demonstrated that she, at least, is entitled to clemency."

This is well said. In too many instances the penalty of crime unfortunately falls chiefly upon the innocent family of the criminal. When the art of justice is perfected, we hope there will be modes of lessening this cruel wrong.—*N. Y. Ledger.*

THE BOOKS OPENED.

An Incomplete Table of Defalcations Since 1861 Shows That the Republican Party Owes the Government Nearly Thirteen Million Dollars.

One of the most striking chapters of the Democratic campaign book will be that which is devoted to the defalcations of Republican office-holders during Republican sway. It has been prepared with great care and much labor from official figures, and makes a more damaging showing than was ever anticipated. The chapter is headed "Opening the Books," and vindicates a promise long made by the Democracy to the people of the country. It says the Democratic party, through its press and by its speakers, declared for the past ten years publicly that if it could turn the rascals out and get at the books they could demonstrate that the Republican party, in its long lease of power, had, through its various officers, by defalcation in collections and disbursements, stolen millions of the people's money. Mr. Tilden, in 1876, claimed the amount to be over $5,000,000. The amount will reach $20,000,000 or more.

Under a resolution of the House, passed January 28, the Acting Secretary of the Treasury transmitted a letter to the House of Representatives in which it is shown officially that the balances now due the Government on account of defalcations in disbursements and collections since 1861 is $12,893,470. In this document each delinquent is named and the exact amount due the Government stated. This does not include the overhauling of the accounts of the Post-office Department. The Sixth Auditor says that the amount of work would be so enormous to get up the accounts of all the officers under the Post-office Department, and get at the balances due from each of them, that it is impossible with the present force to accomplish it. So it is found from an examination of the books in part, showing only about half of the disbursing and receiving officers' accounts, that the balance due by these receiving and disbursing officers, for which they have defaulted to the Government, is over $12,000,000. The balance due from the others' amounts by the same ratio to a larger amount. The foregoing statement and the table which is hereafter inserted does not include shortage, as has been said, in the Sixth Auditor's office, which has charge of the vast expenditures of the Post-office Department. It was there that the star route thieves figured. Nor does it include the shortage in the Third Auditor's office, which embraced the expenditures of the War Department, where Howgate, Hodge and other kindred spirits had their day. Nor does it include the shortage in the Fourth Auditor's office, which has charge of expenditures in the Navy Department, where the Robeson gang paid more for the repair of old ships than they originally cost, and had no ships left.

The records will show that since the Democratic Administration took hold, as is heretofore shown in the report of the First Comptroller of the Treasury, an earnest effort is being made to collect all these balances, and with much greater success than could have been anticipated, owing to the long lapse of time. This is simply a partial peep into the books. The short time that the Democratic Administration has been in power rendered it impossible at this time to give a full exposure of all the delinquencies and defalcations of the Republican office-holders who were not prosecuted for their robbery and plunder, but kept in power by the Republican party. The branches of the service in which these defalcations occurred are shown by the following table:

Customs disbursements	$ 192,194 00
Internal Revenue disbursements	35,969 00
Diplomatic disbursements	724,561 00
Treasury disbursements	5,692,424 00
Judiciary	800,064 00
Interior civil disbursements	358,080 00
Receipts for customs	375,266 00
Receipts for Internal Revenue	3,424,570 00
Receipts for sales public lands	274,503 00
Receipts for Internal Revenue stamps	821,177 00
Receipts for Customs-office emoluments	28,804 00
Receipts for miscellaneous sources	158,173 00
Receipts for captured and abandoned property	527,685 00
Total since 1861	$12,893,470 00

—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

The Republican Attitude.

What is the attitude of the Republican party in this year 1886 regarding Civil-Service reform, and what does it betoken? There is abundant condemnation of the Administration for failures to keep its pledges in this respect; but what do Republicans pledge themselves to do in case power is given to them? Nothing at all. In Maine, Vermont and Illinois there is in the platform a general and rather indifferent reference to the matter. In most of the States it is not mentioned at all as an item of the Republican creed. In Indiana alone do the Republicans, with apparent earnestness, approve the enforcement of the law and call for an extension of its principles. And this while the Democratic President, in spite of all mistakes and violations, is doing more and withstanding more in support of the principles of the reform than any Republican President has had the independence and courage to attempt, and Democratic conventions all over the land are committing themselves, without express qualification, to approval of his Administration, and in many instances especially commending his devotion to Civil-Service reform. It looks as if Republican politicians did not want any extension of Civil-Service reform principles until after they get an opportunity to turn out Mr. Cleveland's appointees and fill the offices again with their own class.

Suppose Mr. Cleveland continues, as he has thus far gone on, retaining in office many Republicans, even after the expiration of the term for which they were appointed by a Republican President under the law which a Republican Congress would not repeal, although its repeal was desired by Civil-Service reformers; appointing in conspicuous cases Republicans of approved character and fitness to office; improving and strengthening the executive regulations by which the Civil-Service act is applied, where they are weak—and suppose that, with this record, he should be renominated by the Democratic party, do Republicans think the record they are making will induce the people to turn Mr. Cleveland out in order to make Mr. Blaine, or any Republican whose reputation as a reformer is no better established, President?—*Boston Herald.*

——A society has been formed in Brooklyn to prevent premature burials. Something of this sort is the only thing that will save the Republican party of Missouri from an untimely grave.—*St. Louis Republican.*

READING FOR THE YOUNG.

JUST A MECHANICAL TOY.

A Lament.

I'm just a mechanical toy,
With wonderful works inside;
I can bow; I can move my head—
And open my mouth so wide;
I can raise the pretty fan
That I carry so well in my hand;
But I'm just a mechanical toy,
You will understand.

And oh! I am gazed at each day
By many a girl and boy,
Who thinks it a wonderful thing
To be a mechanical toy.
Yet, though I perform my part,
And look very sweet and bland,
I am not happy at all,
You will understand.

For I'd rather far be a toy
That the baby would kiss and hug:
A rag-doll—a Japanese fright—
Or even a china pug—
Than to be dressed up like this,
With a pretty fan in my hand,
That strangers may pause and admire,
You will understand.

I'm a very expensive toy,
And require the best of care
On account of my inside works:
For, if any trouble is there,
I can't do a single thing—
I can't move my head or hand—
But must keep in the stiffest pose,
You will understand.

When the Christmas holidays come
I have a return of joy;
For I think I may chance to fall
In the hands of some girl or boy;
But, alas! mechanical toys
Are not very much in demand,
And the reason of this lament
You will understand.

—*Josephine Pollard, in N. Y. Independent.*

THE LOST BOYS.

A True Story of the Adventures of Little Harfie and Percy.

Harfie and Percy were two little boys that lived in a large city just across the river from New York.

Though only five and three years old, they sometimes did very strange things, and once gave their mother a great fright. After breakfast one morning, they were playing on the stone walk in front of their house, but they kept getting a little farther off, first to see this sight and then that, until they were many blocks away. Their mother was so busy in the house she did not miss them until about ten o'clock, when she looked all over the large house, and called up and down the street, but she could not find them. She then went to the police station, and told the man in charge of her missing boys, their ages and how they were dressed. But though many of the men with brass buttons and clubs were hunting for the little runaways, eleven, twelve, one, two, three, four and five o'clock went by, and they could learn nothing about them. The father and mother and brothers and sisters were almost wild with fears. What if some gypsies had carried them off, or they had been stolen like little Charlie Ross, or they had gone to the river and were drowned! But I can not tell you how very badly they felt, and the many fears they had during this long, sad day, that seemed like weeks or even months to them, it was so awful.

About five o'clock, as the mother stopped walking the floor and went to look out of the window, who should she see coming up the steps, whistling as happy as could be, but little Harfie.

"But where is dear little brother?" asked the mother, as she clasped Harfie in her arms.

"I don't know, mamma; I haven't seen him this good while; he wouldn't come with me. But I'll find him if you don't cry so," said Harfie, for the first time thinking something very bad had been done.

The mother and Harfie started at once, and as he led the way through street after street and alley after alley, the mother felt sure she should never find her baby boy. At last they met a stout, bustling Irishwoman, who said: "Indade, ma'am, have you lost a boy? I met one not long since, crying like his heart would break, but I couldn't git him to come in, the poor little dear!"

"Here's where we played all day, mamma," said Harfie, stopping in front of a long, dingy-looking feed-store, "and I left him here." But the mother learned of the clerk that he had gone some two hours, going from there towards the river.

"Oh—h!" thought the mother, as she stood looking at the blue river, "if my baby is drowned!" Just then a dirty, ragged little boy stepped up to her, and said: "Pat and Mike has just gone to the station with a boy they found, it's right down this street four blocks, ma'am."

You can not know how happy these words made the mother feel, and how good this dirty, ragged little boy looked to her, and after giving him some pennies and thanking him she went as fast as she could to the station. But they had just sent him home in charge of the boys who found him.

It was quite late and dark when Harfie and his mother reached home, but they could see a crowd of boys around the steps and hear them quarrel over the reward for a half block away.

"Here's your boy, ma'am, I found him!" came from some twenty boys at once.

But the first thing the mother did was to take little Percy in her arms and kiss him; then she gave Pat and Mike each a dollar, and all the boys went off.

You never saw such tired, dirty little fellows in your life as the mother bathed and put to bed that night, and as they