

Civil Service Reform.

"We prefer a Democrat to a Republican of equal character."

"No honest and true Republican asks to be retained, and none other should be retained. In the South a sweep with a clean broom is demanded by all Democrats."

"Turn the rascals out!"

COON.

It is claimed by some that Mr. Coon would have been the republican appointee on the civil service commission if he had not written such an impudent letter to Mr. Manning, when he complied with Manning's request to resign. Well Mr. Coon is right in talking plain to the administration.

He made a good officer, and there was but one objection to him, and that objection would apply to Mr. Fox, Mr. Opossum, Mr. Mink and the whole tribe of republican office holders as well as to Mr. Coon. If men are not removed because they are Republicans, Mr. Coon ought not to have been removed for that was the only possible objection to him.

Yet Mr. Manning removed him, because a Democrat and a friend (probably of Manning's) wanted the place.

And that was right; a democrat ought to have had it. But if party exigencies demanded it, as Coon says Manning wrote him, why does not the same rule hold good in all cases? Did Manning or Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Ransom have a friend who wanted the place, and therefore democratic doctrines, opinions and sentiments applied until their friend was supplied with a fat place, and then suspended in behalf of Republicans and against Democrats until another personal friend demands a fat place? Wonderful democracy, elastic as a rubber shirt, that is to cover a friend.

CIVIL SERVICE.

Every poor man who has not obtained a collegiate education and is not able to give his children a finished and collegiate education, white or black, in the United States ought to oppose Mr. Cleveland's civil service reform, because it shuts out from holding any office of public trust under the Federal Government all who are not educated in the fancy theories of Borman B. Eaton and Grover Cleveland. You must be able to answer all sorts of non-sensical questions, such as honest level headed men never thought of.

The purpose of the advocates of this measure must be to create an official class of aristocratic educated gentlemen in contradistinction to the poor people.

Belvidently that will be the result if it should become the fixed policy of the government. It is a direct assault against the advancement of the poor man. It bars him and his descendants as long as they are unable to rub against the walls of some college, from any part or share in the government whatsoever except the poor privilege of voting for their superiors, and working all their days to pay this select official class of college bred gentlemen during their official lives and after that to retire them and their families upon the pension list.

We call upon all honest men, and all true democrats and republicans and upon all poor men every where between the oceans to rise up in their indignation and manhood, and put down by force of public opinion and public indignation this dangerous class of our fellow-citizens.

Retire then to private life before they bind you hand and foot, by their assumed superiority and pretended high moral stand and false reasoning, and sweet honeyed words about the purity, greatness, and goodness of Cleveland and his mugwump brigade of sore heads, superannuated, broken down political fossils, office seekers, croakers, grumblers, and disappointed men, who would create confusion in heaven or sheol should they ever land in either Kingdom.

This is the boldest and most audacious assault ever made upon democratic principles and doctrines and upon the right of the people, upon Republican Institutions, and upon the poor of the land. It is building a Chinese wall between the people and the office holders. The poor man can remain in the outer chamber, but the inner temple he cannot enter.

The poor man who has not the advantages of a finished and collegiate education may be honest, able, and faithful, but he cannot enter the democratic synagogue. He can toil

and sweat and vote for his political master, but he can fill no position of honor, trust or emolument.

Away with such democracy, such theories, such departures from the beaten ways of the old fashion democracy.

Pull down all the barriers, remove all obstacles, open the gates wide and let them stand ajar, and invite all to come in and come up higher.

WHAT IS THIS?

Below we give a few short extracts from Mr. Walter H. Page's letter from New York to the Raleigh Chronicle and we add a few very short comments. The subject is, of course, Civil Service. Mr. Page, we think, formerly lived in Raleigh and was one of the editors of the Chronicle but he has gone to Yonkers, like so many other writers born South, become acclimated and has adopted notions strange to the thoughtful ones of his old State.

"It (Civil Service Reform) is the only public movement of the time that has moral force in it, and it has all the moral force that every other great Democratic movement has had."

There is much novelty in that assertion to say the least of it. Only public * * * all the * * * "It is absurd to talk about the great doctrinal difference between the political parties; there is now no such difference."

What ho! Who ever heard of such stuff? Thurman, Vance and other statesmen will not dream of such nonsense. Cleveland, Curtis, and Eaton, will no countenance such, we believe, and we doubt if you would say the minds of sane men of either party throughout the U. S. that any one else will be found to say the same.

"He (Cleveland) is a good Democrat, the best Democrat living, because he does not care a fig whether an officer * * * is a Democrat or whether he has blue eyes or black eyes."

Because what? Don't tell us! Didn't think any body cared about the color of the eyes. "For once in his life" (Vance's) great influence is against the moral sense of the time."

What a unique moralist there is! However, Vance is solid and when a State test comes the vote, for Vance & Co., we think will be about like this * * * and the other side like this few and far between, you see.

" * * * on moral grounds, there is no possible defence for the doctrine that a man has the slightest claim to an office because he has worked for a party. Yet this is a question not to be argued."

Don't argue. Now we will prophesy a little. Notwithstanding the morality, we predict that when the *Observer* and Mr. Page advocate a man for an office before the next Convention that they will tell of his work for the party—it may not be the democratic—an give as one of their strongholds for his nomination that he has been a good workman, &c. Remember this.

"The *Observer*, the *Star*, the *Charlotte Democrat* are as clearly against the moral sentiment of the time as the old preachers were."

What say they? "In Heaven's name, I can't see why our preachers should not preach it (Civil Service) from the pulpits."

Perhaps they have other work. But on account of the writer's enthusiasm, let us sneeze.

them when the time comes. That letter is a strange one; from these extracts would you not judge so?

We would now give reasons for opposing the civil service law, if we had not in these columns so often given them. But we expect to give them often again.

If the man who performs the labor is not entitled to the wages, who is?

Conkling for Republican Presidential Nominee in 1888 says a contemporary.

Pay your subscription to the DEMOCRAT, we need it badly. Do not wait to be called on to pay.

It is thought and hoped that the Civil Service Law, will be greatly changed if not revised this winter.

Iowa has five women lawyers and 122 women physicians, and goes Republican every time by about 50,000 majority.

The Blair Educational Bill is one of the grabbing measures that the multitude burrah for and demagogues are afraid to vote against.—*Charlotte Democrat*.

All the mugwumps in New York voted against Mr. Hill for governor and in favor of Ira Davenport, except Grover Cleveland.

We see in an exchange that W. E. Gladstone is the oldest living statesman. We think the papers some time ago had Bismarck older than Gladstone.

Fred. Brown, of Fort Worth, Texas whose magnetic telegraph invention is working without batteries, is a tall slender man of forty, with a small shrewd face and quick, nervous movements.—*Ex.*

Mr. Charles H. Wells quotes from Mr. Bruno, of North Carolina that Forest fires in that State annually destroy \$357,000 worth of timber. No wonder the South is poor.—*Augusta Chronicle*.

How many citizens of North Carolina think it right to prohibit the manufacture of commercial fertilizers in this state by laying a tax of five hundred dollars on each individual before he can make fertilizers.

There is an orange grove in Liberty county, the value of which is estimated at \$750,000. It is said that thirty hands will not gather the fruit between this and the 1st of January.—*Jacksonville (Fla.) Herald*.

Congress meets 1st of Dec., look out for mugwump-ism, and civil service reform, they are both to receive a black eye. Then we will have as usual a big do over Tariff reform which as usual will, we are afraid, amount to nothing.

How many farmers in North Carolina are willing to be taxed fifty thousand dollars over and above the rest of their fellow citizens for the poor privilege of using commercial fertilizers? Let the farmers answer this question, it concerns no one else.

Yes, if ever we endorse and advocate civil service reform as practiced by Mr. Cleveland as we understand it, it will be when we have lost our manhood, and abandoned the Democratic party and surrendered Democratic principles, then may we earth open and receive us.

Yes, the *Wilmington Star* and *Charlotte Democrat* are against Cleveland's civil service monstrosity, the two best papers, and by all odds two of the soundest papers on Jeffersonian Democracy in the State, and the DEMOCRAT is not ashamed of such company.

New York would have given Cleveland a pain in the stomach if the Stalwart Conkling, wing of the Republican party had not owed Ira Davenport and the Blaine wing of that party a debt of honor and took occasion to pay it in the recent election with compound interest.

It was right in Cleveland to reward Beecher's son with a collectorship, Carl Schurz's brother-in-law and Curtis's friend with consulships, but in the face of this, it is wrong in him to declare that democrats ought to be rewarded for party services!

(For the Democrat.) ABOUT EDUCATION—II.

CAN E

"Assert thyself, and by-and-by the World will come and lend on thee." In the preceding chapter of this paper a question of choice was considered. Not an easy question to decide, to be sure, as we saw; but it was a matter in which the young man was left to follow his own inclination, with the means of obtaining an education and the privilege of refusing to use such means in doing so.

We have before us, not a question of choice as before, but one of possibility. And the question here as to the possibility of obtaining an education does not refer to the mental capacity of those to whom it comes; for any boy or young man with good common sense and half as much will force as ordinary circumstances, in a pecuniary light, will enable him to utilize, can acquire a good education if he will try.

But those to whom this present question comes with so much concern are the boys and young men who really desire an education but see no way of obtaining it. This question can hardly be said to come to them with perplexity; for there seems to be no suspense in it to them but an absolute certainty that the way is closed up and that they are compelled to yield to the inevitable.

This class includes hundreds of boys and young men who feel, in no ordinary degree the aspirations for goodness and greatness which would raise them up were they freed from the shackles of poverty.

These poor unfortunates stand on the shore desiring to seek for the pearls in the deep, but have not the means for furnishing the necessary equipments. Looking out upon the broad expanse before them, and longing to do something which seems to them impossible, they must often despair and turn to the world and seek its favor with a limited knowledge of what is in it. And the regrets with which they turn their faces from the great ocean of knowledge to the rough, merciless world, are made more poignant as they see so many furnished with the equipments who will neither seek the pearls themselves nor give to those who would gladly strive for them and would nobly utilize them when found.

To be sure, this class of boys and young men furnish to those who would be the true lovers of their kind the richest opportunities for practicing broad and liberal philanthropy. In no more generous and praiseworthy manner could men of means use their money than in assisting indigent but ambitious young men in acquiring the education they so much desire.

In many of the colleges of the country a large proportion of the young men who do the best work and take the highest stand in their classes are those who are going to college on borrowed money or are making personal sacrifices known to few and understood by none but themselves. Often from among these hapless but faithful combatants with misfortune's powers, come those who give tone to many a dark corner of the state somewhere and who are the chief promoters of good and the very life of society in such sections.

So now and then a boy of this class has a way made for him by some benevolent one but just here he meets perplexities which come to the young man in the preceding chapter. A way is made possible for the poor young man to get the education; but then comes the question as to whether or not it is best to make the venture. This, too, is no easy decision.

The thought of years, perhaps, of virtual bondage to another man is to the young man of a character for independence not a pleasing picture. And yet, under such circumstances it is nothing less to such a young man. His own friend or his father's friend may say to him "young man here is the money you need to pay your expenses through college. Take it and use it wisely and repay me when you can." The heart of many a young man has throbbed with joy upon his first contemplation of such a proposition, but soon has been made to shrink back by reason of the great risk such a step would incur.

And surely the present age can furnish a host of witnesses that such a course is a hard one. It should never be held out to any young man without means that obtaining an education with another man's money, to be repaid after the completion of his course is any easy thing.

It is a hard thing. And yet, many of the best, noblest and most useful men of the age have had some such experience. It is a hard way of obtaining it, but better than to trail out life in the dust of ignorance.

No young man is to be blamed for hesitating to take such a step. But if it is the only way, let the young man of pluck, and who is full of energy take such step rather than be left behind in this age of thought. And if no easy way or no way at all opens up, let him strike out boldly

and manfully with the motto, "Find a way or make one." From such young men is to come much of the power that is to be felt in the high and noble callings of life. To those of firm purpose and resolute will, the question of possibility need not be an impassable barrier.

"Art thou in earnest, seize this very minute; What you can do, or think you can, begin it."

E. E. HILLIARD.

IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

In the Civil Service Law there are many foolish questions which may be asked an applicant for office, and we have given samples of these in former issues. Below we give a "poem" by the humorist, Burdette, showing the foolishness of the questions. One only wanted to work as a hand in the navy yard but still he had to answer questions of astronomy, mechanics, &c. &c.

It was a Civil Service clerk, A happy man was he, For under the rules from morn till dark; He must serve his count-ter-ee.

With joy he hastened to his home, He hugged his children three, He kissed his wife, and said—"Hurro! I'm passed successful-lee!"

"They asked me where Homer was born; And then they made me name The man who led the horse forlorn At the battle of Alcippame."

"I gave a list of the English Kings From William down to James, And told the number of Saturn's rings And Mrs. Southworth's names."

"About Thermopylae I told; I named the North Sea bays, And then I showed them how to fold A napkin fifteen ways."

"Book III, Aeneid, I scanned ten lines, And I read some of Xenophon; I explained the Zodiac and its signs, And the cause of the cholera."

"And I passed with honor and high award And I'll stick to my work away; I'm to bowl the pitch in the navy yard For a dollar 'na half a day."

Loud laughed the clerk, loud laughed his wife, And the children, loud laughed they; And he stirred the pitch the rest of his life In a civil clerky way.

The Scotland Neck DEMOCRAT is "undergoing correction" all the time. The *Asheville Advance* has even given it a dose. Green youth and cranky age is fine material.—*Battleboro Healthlight*.

And we spend a little time in giving corrections too. A paper that has nothing in it is not apt to have to undergo corrections. We have not seen a copy of the *Asheville Advance* in six months and if it had tried to correct us it surely ought to have sent us a copy; but if it has, it has taken the precaution of not allowing us a reply, by keeping its corrections out of the reach of our eyes. We would suggest that many other papers would do better if they worked for the people in their editorials even at a risk of being "corrected." We welcome heartily corrections. We are not of those who stand aloof from the questions of the day and arguments and then merely remark about our contemporaries troubles, failings, &c. We justly criticize and are open to just criticism.

The advocates of the Agricultural department claim that that department protects the farmers against worthless commercial fertilizers. That may be so, but we don't believe it. Before we had any such department, guanos were more valuable and paid farmers much better than now. This year in this section Commercial Fertilizers proved a complete failure.

Don't wait until next spring; fall sowing makes double what spring sowing will, nine times out of ten, and the sooner sown in the fall, the better. The first of Sept. to the first of Oct. is the time to sow oats, rye, clover, and grass; but November will do when you can't sow sooner.

Who ever thought North Carolina would lay a burden in the shape of a tax on new industries and the material prosperity of the State before she laid an embargo upon each of her own citizens of \$500 to prevent his entering into the manufacture of fertilizers. We always understood the policy of the Democratic party to be to exempt her own citizens from all unnecessary and oppressive burdens.

In our judgment Mr. Cleveland committed a great moral wrong and outrage upon Republican institutions in contributing one thousand dollars to the corruption and in the recent New York election, that is if his theory and practice of civil service reform is the true policy to follow in a Republican form of government and he is sincere and honest in his efforts to put that policy in practice.

The newly elected Baltimore Mayor Mr. Hodges says he still believes that a public office is a public trust to be used for the public good, but it must be distinctly understood, that he believes, when Democrats are honest able and faithful, they deserve seats at the public table instead of Republicans. Of course every honest, sound Democrat, well informed, unhoodwinked and sincere believes likewise.

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