

Jeffersonian Democracy.

Some of the Democratic journals in Oregon, claim that the Democracy of to-day is the pure Jeffersonian type. If it is, all right, we will not dispute the claim. If so, however, Thomas Jefferson must have been a very eccentric sort of a cogger, to speak familiarly. Wonder if he *did* take a "new departure" every time his ticket was beaten at the polls? That's the way the Democracy do now-a-days, and he must have been just such an unbalanced old coot, if what these journals say is true. Wonder if he thought the country was drifting into despotism every time the Federal party or Whig party elected their Presidential candidate! If he did, and we will not pretend to say that he didn't, his children in the faith have inherited the eccentric propensity very strong. The larger the majorities and the more numerous the Republican victories, the louder and longer the Democratic wail arises, these days, that the country is drifting—drifting, slowly, but surely drifting into despotism. Thomas Jefferson talked that way, we suppose, as a *dernier resort* after argument had failed to reach the fears of the timid and ignorant. His illustrious children, in these trying times, seem to ignore the argument part; and in this, there seems to be a slight "departure" from Jeffersonian Democracy. A person, an outsider, we mean, would naturally infer from their numerous editorials on "drifting—slowly drifting into despotism," that their readers were largely, if not entirely, made up of the weak, and timid, and ignorant classes. Of course they are not! No, no. One would infer that, we say, from these oft-repeated editorials. Intelligent Democrats understand them to be nothing more nor less than "buncomb." These "drifting into despotism" editors, certainly do not expect to deceive any number of the Republican party by such bait? Possibly that may be their intention. Strange, if it is; and still stranger if any Republican should be gudgeon enough to bite at it. Did not the Republican party put down by force of arms the only attempt that ever was made by a political party in this government to establish a despotism? The Democratic party of this nation, actively in the South, and sympathetically in the North, attempted in the late rebellion to found a Southern oligarchy, whose corner-stone was to be human slavery; but the Republican party prevented such a wicked consummation. It not only crushed the rebellion, and thus prevented the establishment of a Southern despotism, but it has reconstructed the Government on a basis of *universal freedom*. By the Republican party, four millions of colored men, whom the Democratic party were holding in the bonds of slavery, were elevated to the rights of freemen and citizens. Did that act indicate that the Republican party was in favor of despotism? But, say these journals: Grant has suspended the writ of *habeas corpus* in South Carolina, and is using the military to arrest the Ku Klux. True, he is; but the Ku Klux has been proven by Congressional investigation to be a band of cruelty-perpetrating robbers and thieves, which the civil law could not suppress. The venom of their fiendish hate and cruelty, was directed against those, principally, whom the Republican party had liberated from Democratic despotism. In the Ku Klux order, the spirit of the late rebellion still exists. It proposes to accomplish by violence that which it has failed to secure at the ballot box. It has been, and now is, in actual rebellion against civil as well as Congressional law; and the President would fail in perform-

ing his official duty, should he fail to employ the power which the Constitution and laws of Congress have obligated him to use in such emergencies. Should the President refuse to execute the laws to the letter, as required by his official oath, and thus substitute his own will and inclination in the matter, the charge of despotism would then justly prevail against him; but as it is, it is without foundation. While a despotism the most oppressive, intolerant and blood-thirsty the world ever saw, exists in the Democratic party of the South, a charge of that kind from their sympathizers in the North against the party which has in the past and is now preventing them from oppressing the weak and poor, and from subverting the Constitution and substituting in its place the will of an oppression-loving aristocracy, falls to the ground by its own weight of inconsistency.

The Difference.

Those of our readers who have studied the characteristics of the two great parties which have moulded public sentiment and given point and direction to public measures for the past ten years or more, will recognize the correctness of this statement: that while the Republican party has advanced steadily and faithfully on the line of its avowed principles to their successful development, the Democratic party has departed widely from its ancient tenets; has been tossed about by counter currents of opinion among its own adherents, until now it is entirely destitute of any clearly defined, or uniformly accepted chart of public principles. Before it bathed its hands of oppression in the best blood of the nation to perpetuate and extend slavery, it was a power in its unity of faith. The perpetuation and extension of human slavery was then the golden plank in its platform. The cohorts of Democracy, from ocean to ocean, and gulf to lakes, rallied to the behests of the slave-power, as did the negro chattel to his master's whip. The charm of unity, however, was broken by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. That not only introduced an element of discord into the Democratic party, but it caused the birth of that party through whose influence and power the nation has been purified from human bondage. It is true that Democracy elected the next President; but a portion of her children passed out from under her iron rule. Long before the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, she had set the example of "departing" from the faith of the Democratic fathers. Slavery had become a Heaven-ordained institution instead of a curse; and this precedence of "departing" has been faithfully adhered to by the party ever since. At the time of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, the position of the Southern Democracy was, the Constitution and slavery everywhere, in States and Territories. Douglas Democracy was, the Constitution and slavery by "squatter sovereignty" in the Territories. The position of the Republican party was, the Constitution and *universal freedom*, as the Democratic fathers intended. The success of the Republican ticket in 1860, prompted the Democracy to take the horrible "departure" of trying to break up the Government, for the purpose of establishing a Southern despotism. A good many of the party in the Northern States, and many in the South, too, could not stand that, and they "departed" into the Republican ranks. Since then the "departures" have been so numerous, that time would fail us to tell them all. The Republican party, however, has advanced steadily and successfully along the line of the Constitution and universal freedom, until its humane and elevating purposes have well nigh been accomplished. The nation is stronger, happier, freer and more prosperous to-day than it ever has been, in spite of the rebellious outrages of the Ku Klux and the opposition of the Democratic party.

Democracy in a Bad Way.

Democracy is in a deplorable fix. It appears more than half demented. Its inconsistencies are unparalleled in American politics. It is more fantastic in its "departures" than a Chinese rope-dancer. It is unjointed and unnerve-d, and has fits. It has no head at all any more, but its bowels are kept in a continual stir by all sorts of infirmities. No wonder the Missouri Republican wants it to be "passive." Some Southern politicians thought to cure the old hulk by seducing Senator Trumbull to become its head during the next Presidential campaign. "No," says Trumbull, "not against Grant. Grant's defeat would cause a reaction in the South which would be worse than the present state of affairs; but the people are not ready for a change. Democrats will adopt the passive policy which is disbandment. The Republican party is not divided and will poll a larger vote than in 1868." No hope in that quarter for distracted Democracy to find a head, Trumbull, like the Missouri Republican, believes in the "no nominating" plan so far as his interest extends. But Democracy, wildly bent on the most extravagant "departures," as well as humiliating rebuffs, rushes down to Massachusetts and asks Senator Sumner to become its head-piece for the next Presidential campaign. Sumner! can it be possible? Truly it can't, and a journal said to be founded by Tammany at Washington, called the *Patriot*, heads the measure. Sumner, of course, will not accept, and the next dive of Democracy will be for Fred Douglas.

A Most Terrible Affair.

Mrs. Sarah B. Carter, a widow lady of Bunker Hill, Illinois, was recently brutally assaulted by her nephew, Frank Willson, and left in the road near her residence for dead. From there, in a state of complete nudity, he ran towards town to the residence of Rev. Mr. Smith, pastor of the Methodist Church, and sprang through the closed window, carrying away the sash by the violence of his entrance, and severely cutting himself by the fractured glass. Mr. Smith and his wife were seated in the room which he thus entered. Before his presence was scarcely realized, he sprang towards Mrs. Smith, dealing her a terrific blow in the temple, and then seized her throat and attempted to choke her. Fortunately for Mrs. Smith, her husband was there, who almost instantly closed with Willson, and threw him to the floor. Shortly after two constables appeared who took him in charge, clothed him, and placed him in confinement. Willson was supposed to be insane.

Mexico.

A state of anarchy prevails throughout the entire republic of Mexico. The journals are full of pronouncements and the troops are growing more revolutionary. General Trevins has captured the greater part of Saltillo in the late battles, and he is pressing the siege vigorously. Sixteen hundred Government troops are hemmed in inside and the water supply cut off.

The *New Northwest* says that "women must speak through her [Mrs. Woodhull] until they get into power." If they cannot get into power except through the leadership of Woodhull, how are they to hold the power when it is secured, unless she continues to lead? Power, which depends on wrong principles for attainment, is impure in itself and injurious in its influence anyhow. To secure a right, does not morally justify the commission of a wrong. A beautiful structure, built on a rotten foundation, is short lived, anyway. We are sorry they are building on Woodhull.

Ben. Wade says that Grant was never stronger than he is to-day, and will be elected by as large a proportionate majority to a second term, as President Monroe after the war of 1812.

Agreeable People.

Mankind may be divided into two general classifications, either agreeable or disagreeable. To one or the other of these, each individual belongs. He, practically, is a sort of magnet—he either attracts or repels. Hence, first impressions are often taken as strongest indications of character. We say of a new acquaintance, I like him, or I dislike him. Errors, in this way, are often committed, it is true; but nevertheless such is the practice, and is as often likely to be correct as erroneous. We look at the cut of a man's countenance; the facial lines; the glance of his eye; his language and the manner of his speech; his gestures and motions; his dress and general get up; and from these our deductions are drawn. We say of one who impresses us favorably, he has the appearance of a gentleman; he diffuses a grateful, pleasing influence. Such people attract us; gain our confidence; we confide in them. In analyzing the character of one of these agreeable people, we find it difficult to name the qualities which are the most agreeable. There is a combination of agreeable elements, this we know; but to name them in the order of their importance and relation, and give to each its right shade of influence, is a task involving the most delicate discrimination. He is polite, cheerful, pleasant, kind, friendly, sincere, sympathizing, considerate; all these and more; how much, we cannot tell; we sum it all up by saying, that he seems to take pleasure in making himself agreeable to everybody, and striving to make everybody feel agreeable. Such people are a blessing in all the walks of life.

A WONDERFUL BRIDGE.—The bridge now in process of erection across the Mississippi at St. Louis, is one of the wonders of the age. It is to be a tubular, cast steel, arch bridge, supported by the abutments and two piers; the latter are 515 feet apart, and 497 feet from its nearest abutment, making three spans of about 500 feet. Its greatest span is the same as that of the Kellenberg Bridge over the Leck, an arm of the Rhine, Holland. Telford's suspension bridge across the Menai Straits has a span of 570 feet. The Victoria tubular iron bridge of Montreal exceeds this greatly in length, being 6,600 feet (1 1/4 miles), but it rests upon twenty-four piers, and its spans are mainly only 275 feet. The suspension bridge at Niagara spans 821 feet above the water. The East River Bridge will span 1,600 feet, at a height midway of 130 feet.

The old settlers of South western Oregon are rejoicing in the fact that Rogue River is navigable for ocean steamers. The *Coquette* last month entered the mouth of that river, carrying the machinery for two steam saw-mills, one to Ellensburg and the other near to Port Orford. This discovery will be a source of great convenience to that portion of the State.

Sunday before last, Portland boys, and some stalwart men, countenanced by the police, "broke the Sabbath," by trying to break Chinese heads with snowballs. Such amusement is in keeping with "cock-fighting and bull-baiting."

The charge of perjury against "Wrestling Joe," of Portland, did not "down him"—was not sustained.

They found out how to "fix" it in the very first session of the Continental Congress. While that Congress was in session Delegate Harrison, of Virginia, desiring to "take something," went with a friend to a certain place where supplies were furnished to Congress, and ordered two glasses of brandy and water. The man in charge hesitated, and replied that liquors were not included in the supplies furnished Congressmen.

"Why," said Harrison, "what is it, then, that I see the New England members come here and drink?" "Molasses and water, which they have charged as stationery," was the reply.

"Then give me the brandy and water," said Harrison, "and charge it as fuel." It took that course.

American Snobbery.

The officers connected with the Navy-yard at New York, gave Prince Alexis, of Russia, a grand reception and ball, on the night of November 28th. A line of carriages, filled with guests, two miles in length, were kept waiting from three to four hours before their occupants could reach the ball-room, so great was the jam. It is humiliating to read that when the Duke entered at ten and one-half o'clock, a general rush was made to get near him. How ridiculous they must have appeared! The cream of New York society, bedecked in the furbelows and gow-gaws of a characteristic extravagance, priding themselves on their wealth and superior refinement and independence; rushing, crowding, squeezing, jamming, like a set of bumpkins at a horse show, or a crowd of half demented uncompoops to see a striped clown. Away with such disgusting snobbery! If we were disposed to be facetious, like some of the Democratic journals of Oregon, we might say that such disgusting "effusiveness" is the legitimate outgrowth of the Tammany rule; but that would be equally erroneous with charging it to Republican rule. It exhibits the lack of good common sense, as well as a knowledge of the elementary principles of politeness, among those who go to reception balls in New York.

EASTERN NEWS.

The New York dispatches inform us that Judge Brady has granted an order for the arrest of Mayor Hall, on a similar complaint to those against Tweed and Connolly. Connolly has begun to despair of furnishing bail, and the *Tribune* says, has prepared a full confession of all transactions of the Ring. It is also stated that Tweed's bondsmen have signified their intention to withdraw their names, and if others are not secured he will share the same fate of Connolly.

At a banquet given December 21, to the Grand Duke Alexis by the New York Yacht Club, at Delmonico's, in response to a toast he said that he felt deeply grateful for the warm reception he had everywhere met with since his arrival in the United States—the remembrance of his visit would ever form the most cherished recollection of his life. During the afternoon preceding this banquet, he was presented by Gen. Dix, with a picture of the late Admiral Farragut, to be presented by him to his father, the Emperor of Russia. The Prince is to visit Lowell. The Russian fleet will go to New Orleans where the Prince will join it at the close of the tour of the States and proceed to China.

The work on the Branch Mint at San Francisco is reported at Washington as progressing favorably, by Architect Mullett, and will be completed this season.

The public debt was reduced \$3,462,000 the past month.

Robert Lincoln is said to have lost all he possessed by the Chicago fire.

The authorities at Washington do not apprehend any difficulty at Havana to American citizens, but deem it prudent to have force near.

Mr. Geo. J. Miller succeeded in killing nine bears at the mouth of Beaver Creek, Siskiyou county, California, last month. They weighed from one hundred to seven hundred pounds each. In company with a Frenchman, he also killed three California lions, weighing from one hundred to three hundred pounds each. He likewise found nine bee trees near the California and Oregon boundary line, two of the trees being so full of honey as to burst open in cutting them down.

Mr. J. C. Spencer borrowed his employers mule last fourth of July and spent him in a Portland spree, for which he remained in "durance vile" until Friday of last week. He was then tried by a jury and found guilty. His sentence was postponed.

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