

DEMOCRATIC DISSENSIONS.
In the conflict in the senate between the two factions of the Democratic party there is occasionally an expression of opinion, of which it would be well to take note. Of course, when the members of the organization are harmonious there is a mellifluous flow of language that would incline one to the belief that Democracy had a continual love feast; but when contrary winds blow there is liable to be unpleasant views said which give a different view of affairs. The surface of the pool is placid and smooth when there is no breeze stirring, but when there is internal commotion the mud and slime at the bottom is liable to come to the surface. We were forcibly reminded of this in the debate between Hill, of New York, and Morgan, of Alabama, Tuesday. In his speech the gentleman from the south had spoken of his life-long devotion to the constitution, and in answer the senator from New York said: "I supposed, that for a brief period my friend supported another constitution, but I may be mistaken." As to Morgan's talk about dying at his post, Hill heard his statements by men who were "going to die in the last ditch," but, said Hill, "there were many of them left." If this had been uttered by a Republican the bowl of "bloody shirt" would have been raised by the Democratic press from Maine to California; and Mr. Hill would not have said anything, which might have been interpreted as calling in question the patriotism of southern Democrats, during a presidential campaign. But the northern wing of the party can speak boldly now until 1896, when the love-feast will again be inaugurated. This independent spirit appears to be abroad in the land, and even among Democrats in Oregon there have been plain words spoken. It was only a few weeks ago that the *Welcome*, in Portland, called the *Evening Telegram* the *Redd* yell, undoubtedly referring to the predictions of the editor during the late unpleasantness. As a Republican we are glad to note these outbursts of honest, patriotic feelings in the senate and the more common walks of life among that party who has made every possible excuse for treason and traitors for the past twenty-five years. "To err is human and to forgive divine," is an old and true aphorism, and when Democrats do not act divinely if they are opposed by men who sought to dismember the union, Republicans cannot be expected to when the constitutional amendments made necessary by the changed conditions of the people since the war, are ignored and trampled under feet by the descendants of slaveholders in the south. The wrangle between Democrats, during this factional fight between the friends of Mr. Cleveland and those in favor of free-coinage, may bring many things to light that have been hidden for years, and the solid south may not hereafter so readily wheel into line in support of a northern candidate.

The *Evening Telegram* prints the following appeal to the president: "Mr. Cleveland, come back into the party and stand on the platform. Remember the obligations of party fealty. You have stayed in Republican pastures long enough. This little lesson of defeat and humiliation ought to teach you the necessity of standing by the people who elected you. There is still time for a return to the Democratic fold. While the lights hold out to burn, the vilest sinner may return." The plank in the Chicago platform that relates to the money question can be interpreted to mean either a single standard or bimetalism, and appears to be differently understood by the two factions in the party. Mr. Cleveland's position on the subject was well known before he was nominated, and he has been true to his convictions and consistent with the opinion he has formerly expressed. Democracy has never advocated any fixed doctrine on national issues, and no platform can be considered consistent with the one preceding. At one time the party has been in favor of inflation, and subsequently it has supported some of the other wild theories on finance. If honest money were considered popular with the people, Democrats would support the single standard as the measure of values, and they would with equal ardor attempt to drift with the current if that tended in the direction of free coinage. Anything to gain votes has been their motto for years, and we can see no indication of any change from this yet. Mr. Cleveland has been honest and courageous in his opinions, and in this regard has incurred the bitter animosities of many Democrats. Perhaps he is more Republican than Democratic, and the party of patriots, progress and protection may more nearly agree with his ideas than the one with which he is affiliated.

The Albany Democrat prints the following sensible paragraph editorially: "If the reform papers of this state would use more argument and less billingsgate, they would gain more strength for the party, whose principles they advocate. A good many of these papers appear to vie with each other in an effort to bitterly denounce placatores, and we read in one paper that the editor proposes fighting 'this thing until hell freezes over and then fighting it out on the ice.' There is no argument in all this and the effect produced is opposite to that intended. There are others who advocate reform by hitting at dynamite, wading through blood to horses' bridles and other things equally foolish. Their great rage is directed at millionaires, unmerciful of the fact that nine men out

of ten would do almost anything to become a millionaire. All such violent denunciations and threats are lost on men of sense, although they may please the rabble which, like a band of sheep, unthinkingly follows a leader." If our esteemed contemporary means by the "reform" papers the free-coinage Democratic press we must excuse them, for they have lashed themselves into a fury over their discomfiture since the inauguration of Mr. Cleveland, and must give vent to their wrath in some manner. But the use of inelegant epithets convinces no one, and threats are only used by cowards. Journalists should be on such a high plane that no word should appear in public prints that would bring the blush to the cheek of the most modest, and in the argument of a question no language should be used that would be improper in the pulpit or parlor.

EXECUTIVE FIRMNESS.
The tyranny of the minority in the senate has been suffered by the country for a long while, and the people have arrived at the conclusion that it is equally burdensome as the oppression of the majority. If, as Shakespeare says, there is a divinity that doth hedge around a king, his satanic majesty must have taken full control of the silverites in the present congress. Contrary to the pledges their party made to the country, against the protest of the executive when their partisans elected to the highest office in the gift of the American people, and with a full knowledge of the unexampled financial distress that has spread over the country, for weeks past they have acted the part of stubborn obstructionists, forcing the majority to remain idle and refusing to do anything themselves. On different occasions the friends of the repeal measure have attempted several plans to induce them to act in a becoming manner as representatives of the people in the higher branch of the national legislature; but to no purpose. They would do nothing unless they could be assured that a free-coinage bill would pass the senate. There was a time when the congress at Washington City was a dignified body of men, who would sacrifice every consideration for the benefit of the country; but this era has passed, and the conviction that has been in special session since August '74 has many of the elements of the bad caucus of a political party. It is true that they are elected by their constituency to legislate for the public weal, and not to make long speeches against time. But this has been forgotten, and the wrongs of the senate over the monetary question have been productive of very much harm and little good. In its own right it is worthy of the contempt of the nation, and it is not surprising that in such an emergency President Cleveland has come to the conclusion that before adjournment something must be done in relation to the object for which the special session was called, and that, as executive of 68,000,000 people, he will not permit the financial interests of the republic to be wrecked to satisfy the selfish ideas of the representatives of a few silver mine owners. He has demonstrated the fact that he knows his duty, and is not afraid to perform it.

We hope he will continue the session, if possible, until there is an unconditional repeal of the silver-purchase clause of the Sherman act. He is not only the president of the Democratic party, but of the entire people, and his duty should be performed to all alike. The lamented Lincoln, in the trying epoch of his administration, stood firm to his convictions, notwithstanding the opposition of the abolitionists of the north and the free-traders of the south, and history will place him as one of the great men of all time. Mr. Cleveland can make fame for himself by pursuing an unwavering course in what he deems for the best interests of the whole country, and patriotism will accord him its meed of praise.

It will be a rare day for the Democratic party when all the raw material men are heard from. What do you say to this, you Eastern Oregon Democrats, you men of the *System Statesman*. When the vote is taken in 1894, will you be in favor of protection in this portion of the state. It will be impossible to find a Democratic sheep, lamb or goat east of the Cascades.

There is no indication that the war in the republics of South America is nearing its end. The people down there revolutionize the government, attempt, for pastimes, and are not completely happy without they are cutting some one's throat. Free institutions are not always conducive to the most perfect state of society and the highest condition of human peace and tranquility.

Some of the more radical friends of Irish home-rule will likely oppose Mr. Gladstone in his constitutional methods to accomplish that end. The grand old man, who has been prominent in British politics for so many years, should not allow the autumn of his life to be blighted by any act which would be considered dishonorable to the English constitution. Small men might do this unnoticed; but with great men it is different.

WASTE IN THE PENSION OFFICE.
Evidence is coming from every quarter, and without exception, it is evidence detrimental to the character of the national administration. Mr. Cleveland went into office pledged to "purge the pension list." As an eastern exchange well puts it, "purge" in the vocabulary of northern copperheads and of southern secessionists means reduce, when applied to a list of patriots. Among his first demands of the chiefs of departments appointed by him was that which required the secretary of the interior to "remove 100,000 names from the pension rolls during the first fiscal year." He had appointed a man who was proprietor of the most rabidly sectional newspaper in Georgia and the son of a Confederate officer to preside over the department in which the claims of union soldiers are heard and determined. This appointee, Hoke Smith by name, was ready and willing to do the president's bidding. By his own confession 12,000 pensioners were "suspended," i. e., dropped from the rolls, during the first four months of his incumbency of the office of secretary of the interior.

The misery, the absolute suffering entailed upon 12,000 men and their families suddenly, without hint of danger, deprived of their sole means of sustenance may be imagined. In not a single case was proof of fraud or misconduct existing against them. One and all were suspended on "suspicion of irregularity." What airy stuff was considered ground of "suspicion" is known only to the Almighty, the punisher of cruelty, to Satan, the inspirer thereof, and to Grover Cleveland and Hoke Smith, the glad promoters thereof. The basis of "suspicion," however, was so very flimsy that Smith himself—though not until driven by a storm of indignation—has reinstated 6000 of the suspended 12,000 without daring to allow a court to judge of the unworthiness of his pretended grounds of suspicion. But not the less have 12,000 brave and unworthy men been made to suffer without cause by order of Hoke Smith, who was ordered by Grover Cleveland to "reduce the pension rolls by 100,000 within the year." More than 6000 still are suffering "on suspicion."

The rule of law and humanity in to presume a man innocent until he is proved guilty. The rule of President Cleveland is to hold a pensioner guilty of fraud until it is proved that he cannot be otherwise than innocent.

It costs something to maintain an army of spies engaged in trumping up "grounds of suspicion" against pensioners. The last congress appropriated \$20,000 to be used by the department of the interior for investigation and prosecution of pension frauds. Mr. Cleveland's administrator of this department has spent every penny of this liberal allowance for four months, and has not proved half a dozen cases of fraud. At this rate it is more costly to reduce the pension list than to increase it. But those who hate the veterans of the union armies have been pleased—and every one of such voted for Mr. Cleveland.

Having expended his year's allowance in four months, Mr. Hoke Smith is waiting for Mr. Cleveland to call congress to give him an extra allowance of \$300,000 more for prosecution of the nasty work of pension-hunting. If asked for it is likely to be granted. A Democratic congress that begrudges a dollar to a needy soldier of the union is quite likely to multiply by two and a half the usual allowance for prevention of real or pretended pension frauds.

The Union Pacific has followed the example of the Northern Pacific, and has placed its affairs in the hands of a receiver. The receiver does not mean the same as it would if a private individual were to follow the same method. It will be a rare day for the Democratic party when all the raw material men are heard from. What do you say to this, you Eastern Oregon Democrats, you men of the *System Statesman*. When the vote is taken in 1894, will you be in favor of protection in this portion of the state. It will be impossible to find a Democratic sheep, lamb or goat east of the Cascades.

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The Death of Marshal MacMahon.
Last Wednesday removes from life a well-known character in French history. He achieved considerable prominence as a soldier, both in Africa and the European wars of the last empire; but at Sedan his military was not forgotten. As president of the republic he did not display any great qualities, but acted patriotically for the best interests of the people, as any honest man should have done. He was not a Napoleon, a Talleyrand or a Mirabeau, but simply an honest Frenchman, who fought bravely for his country in battle, and when peace reigned over the land, as chief magistrate, did what he considered was for the best interests of the citizens.

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