

ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE

HOW THE LADIES FISH

There is generally about six of them in a bunch, with light dresses on, and they have three poles with as many hooks and lines among them. As soon as they get to the river they look for a good place to get down the bank, and the most venturesome one sticks her heels into the bank and makes careful steps down—then suddenly she finds herself at the bottom, with both hands in the water, and feels that everybody in this wide world is looking at her. The other girls, profiting by her example, turn round and go down backward. Then they scamper until they find a shallow place where they can see the fish, and shout—

'Oh I see one!'

'Where?'

'There!'

'Oh, my! so he is!'

'Let's catch him.'

'Who's got the bait?'

'You lazy thing you're sitting on my pole.'

All these exclamations are gotten off in a top that awakens every eye within a mile or two, and sends every fish into 'galloping hysterics.' Then the girls by a superhuman effort manage to get a worm on the hook and throw it in with a splash like the launching of a wash tub, and await the result. After a while a feeble-minded sunfish contrives to get fastened on the hook of a timid woman, and she gives vent to her tongue, by saying loudly—

'Oh something has got hold of my hook.'

'Pull up you little idiot!' shouted five excited voices, as poles and hooks are dropped.

They run to the rescue. The girl with a bite gave a spasmodic jerk, and sends the unfortunate 'sunny' into the air the full length of the line, and he comes down on the nearest curly head with a damp flop that sends her to clawing as though there were bubble bees in her hair.

'Oh, mind it! Let it away! Ugh, take it away, the nasty thing!'

Then they hold up their skirts and gather around that fish as it skips over shelves, one all the time holding the line in both hands with her foot upon the pole, as though she had an evil disposed goat at the other end. Then they talked it over.

'How will it get off?'

'Ain't it pretty?'

'Wonder if it ain't dry?'

'Poor little thing: let us put it back.'

'Pick it up?': she rapidly backs out of the circle.

'Glad gracious, I'm afraid of it. There! it's opening its mouth at some of us.'

Just then the 'sunny' wiggles off the hook and disappears between two logs in the water, and the girls try for another bite. But the sun comes down and fries the back of their necks, and they get three headaches in the party and they all set cross and scold at the fish like so many magpies. If an unwary chub dares to show his head in the water they poke at him with poles, much to his disgust. Finally they throw the poles away, hunt up the lunch basket and climb up into the woods, where they sit round on the grass, and eat enough of dried beef, rusk and hard boiled eggs to give a horse the night-mare, after which they compare notes about their beaux until sundown, when they go home and plant envy in the hearts of all their dear friends by telling them what 'just a splendid time' they did all have.

All Hancock and English campaign clubs and other organizations which support the Democratic candidates are requested to send to

W. H. BARNUM,

Chairman Nat. Dem. Committee,
138 Fifth Ave., New York,
1. The name and location of their organization.
2. A statement of the number of their members enrolled.
3. The names of officers.
4. Accounts of meetings held.
5. Reports, every two weeks during the campaign, of the number and increase of membership, with the condition and prospects of the canvass.

The worst abused man in Washington is the department clerk. He earns from \$1,800 down to \$700 per year. It is safe to say that all get as much as they are worth. Half of them, who owe board bills and sport so much style around Washington, could not make enough in competition with the world to wear two suits a year. The clerk is a polite pauper. He thinks that for some reason or other this country owes him a living. He goes to work at 9 o'clock, and is found, all slickly brushed and gilded, issuing from the front steps of his great asylum just before 3 o'clock.—Washington Letter in St. Paul Pioneer-Press.

NATIONAL PLATFORM.

ADOPTED BY THE CINCINNATI CONVENTION.

The Democratic party of the United States in convention assembled, declare:

First—We pledge ourselves anew to the constitutional doctrines and traditions of the Democratic party as illustrated by the teaching and examples of a long line of Democratic statesmen and patriots, and embodied in the last national convention of the party.

Second—Opposition to centralization and that dangerous spirit of encroachment which tends to consolidate the powers of all the departments in one, and thus to create, whatever be the forms of government, a real despotism; no sumptuary laws; separation of church and State for the good of each; common schools to be fostered and protected.

Third—Home rule, honest money, strict maintenance of public faith, consisting of gold, silver and paper convertible to coin on demand; the strict maintenance of the public faith, State and national, and a tariff for revenue only.

Fourth—The subordination of the military to the civil power, and a general and thorough reform of the civil service.

Fifth—Right to a free ballot as the right preservative of all rights, and must and shall be maintained in every part of the United States.

Sixth—The existing administration is representative of conspiracy only, and its claims of right to surround the ballot boxes with troops and deputy marshals, to intimidate and obstruct the elections, and by unprecedented use of the vote to maintain its corrupt and despotic power, insults the people, and imperils their institutions.

Seventh—The great fraud of 1876, by which, upon a false count of the electoral vote of two States, the candidate defeated at the polls, was declared to be President, and for the first time in American history, the will of the people was set aside under the threat of military violence, struck a deadly blow at our system of representative government. The Democratic party, to preserve the country from the horrors of a civil war, submitted for the time, in the firm and patriotic faith that the people would punish this crime in 1880. This issue precedes and dwarfs every other. It imposes more sacred duty upon the people of the Union than was ever addressed to the conscience of a nation of freemen.

Eighth—We execrate the course of this administration in making places for political criminals, and demand a reform by statute which shall make it forever impossible for a defeated candidate to bribe his way to the seat of a usurper by villainies upon the people.

Ninth—The resolution of Samuel J. Tilden not again to be a candidate for election, the exalted place to which he was elected by a majority of his countrymen, and from which he was excluded by the leaders of the Republican party, is received by the Democrats of the United States with sensibility, and they declare their confidence in his wisdom and patriotism and integrity, unshaken by the assault of the common enemy, and they further declare to him that he is followed into the retirement he has chosen for himself by the sympathy and respect of his fellow-citizens, who regard him as one who, by elevating the standard of public morality and adorning and purifying the public service, merits the lasting gratitude of his country and his party.

Tenth—Free ships and a living chance for American commerce on the sea and on the land, no discrimination in favor of transportation lines, corporations or monopolies.

Eleventh—Abolition of the Burlingame Treaty; no more Chinese immigration except for travel, education and foreign commerce, and therein carefully guarded.

Twelfth—Public money and public credit for public purposes solely, and public lands for actual settlers.

Thirteenth—The Democratic party is the friend of labor and the laboring man, and pledges itself to protect him alike against the corporations and the monopolies.

Fourteenth—We congratulate the country upon the honesty and drift of the Democratic Congress which has reduced the public expenditures to \$40,000,000 a year; upon the continuation of prosperity at home and the national honor abroad, and above all, upon the promise of such a change in the administration of this government as shall insure its genuine lasting reform in every department of the public service.

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