

REPUBLICAN THEFTS.

Defalcations Under Various Administrations.

More Money Stolen Under Republican Administration Than in all the Precious Years of the Republic.

At a grand open-air Democratic ratification meeting in Washington, one of the speakers was Congressman Post, of Pennsylvania, secretary of the Democratic Congressional committee. In the course of his speech he said:

Secretary McPherson, of the Republican Congressional committee, has issued a circular purporting to show the losses of the government from Washington's administration down to June 30, 1883, by reason of defalcations of public officers, and figures out a very discreditable state of affairs for Washington's administration compared with the present administration and the preceding immaculate administrations of Hayes and Grant.

He says the percentage of losses, based upon the receipts and disbursements of the government, was, under Washington \$2.80 on the \$1,000, while under Arthur it is only one and one-tenths of a mill on the \$1,000. He reports the total amount stolen under Washington during his eight years to be \$350,970.30, while all that has been stolen under Arthur's administration, down to June 30, 1883, is \$5,264.09; and on this insignificant sum he bases his percentage of loss on the enormous receipts and disbursements, and thus gets his one and eight tenths of a mill as the percentage of loss on \$1,000. The acting secretary of the treasury, Charles E. Coon, certifies to the correctness of this statement, August 10, 1884.

This statement of Secretary McPherson and the acting secretary of the treasury as to the amount stolen under Arthur's administration is so utterly at variance with the knowledge of every person who has read the current news of the past six months that its falsity was exposed with the statement. But an examination of the annual reports of the solicitor of the treasury, who is the law officer of the treasury department, charged with the prosecution of the defaulting officers of the government in civic suits, to the attorney general for the three fiscal years preceding June 30, 1883, shows this McPherson-Coon statement to be absolutely false far as the amount they report as stolen under Arthur's administration is concerned.

FIGURES OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE TREASURY.

The following are the figures of the solicitor of the treasury, taken from his official printed reports:

Amount of defalcations for the year ending June 30, 1881, upon which suit has been entered by the United States attorney general to recover.....	\$483,477 97
Collected on same by suits.....	11,785 94
Total loss on same.....	\$471,692 03
Amount of defalcations during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, upon which suit has been entered to recover.....	\$427,430 94
Collected by suit on same.....	1,224 14
Total loss to the government.....	\$426,206 80
Defalcations during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, amount sued on to recover.....	\$653,835 56
Collected by suit on same.....	5,924 32
Total loss.....	\$647,911 24
Total amount of defalcations during the three years preceding June 30, 1883, upon which the United States has sued to recover in United States courts.....	\$1,569,733 77
Total amount of collections on same.....	18,933 50
Total loss to the government.....	\$1,550,800 27

HOW SUITS ARE BROUGHT.

These suits against defaulting public officers are brought upon a transcript of account made by the first comptroller of the treasury, who certifies to the settlement of the account and that the officer has defaulted for the balance stated, and the comptroller, who is the final accounting officer of the government, recommends suit to be entered against the defaulter to recover the amount of the defalcation. The solicitor of the treasury, if he coincides with the view of the comptroller on the expediency of bringing suit, forwards the comptroller a statement of account or transcript to the proper United States District Attorney, and directs him to enter suit to recover the amount stolen as certified by the comptroller.

The statement of the amount of defalcations above given is shown to be correct, as suits have been filed by the government in the various United States courts to recover that amount. In those cases where, on grounds of personal or political expediency, suits have not been brought, the names of the officers and the amounts stolen cannot be ascertained from any official publication. The total loss of the government for the three fiscal years preceding June 1, 1883, as shown by the certificates of the First Comptroller of the Treasury, filed in the United States courts and sued on by direction of the solicitor of the treasury, the law officer of the government in charge, is \$1,569,733.77. From which deduct collections, \$18,933.50, leaving a total loss of \$1,550,800.27 to the United States from the thefts of its disbursing officers for the time stated by McPherson and Coon, instead of \$5,264.09, as they certify.

ADDITIONAL LOSSES—COMPROMISES.

If we add to the amount certified by the first comptroller and solicitor of the treasury as having been stolen—viz., \$1,550,800.27, the amount stated by Attorney-General Brewster as stolen by the star routers, \$4,000,000, which is properly chargeable to the Arthur administration

tion for its failure to collect it by an energetic prosecution; the steal of Burnside, disbursing officer of the postoffice department in 1884, \$85,000; defalcation of Morgan, disbursing officer of the state department in 1884, \$18,000; navy department medical bureau frauds in 1884, estimated at \$200,000; defalcation of United States Marshal Hall, of Pittsburgh, in 1883, and reported by attorney-general to be \$153,000, we have the amount stolen under Arthur \$5,004,387.27, instead of \$5,634.09, as stated by Secretary McPherson and certified as correct by Acting Secretary of the Treasury Coon.

The falsity of this McPherson-Coon statement is still further proven by the following statement, the figures of which are taken from the annual reports of the solicitor of the treasury to the attorney-general, who reports the compromises of official defalcations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, 1882 and 1883:

For the year ending June 30, 1881, defalcation of.....	\$615,963 10
Compromised for.....	105,668 18
Loss to the government.....	\$510,294 92
For the year ending June 30, 1882, defalcations of.....	\$814,521 62
Compromised for.....	224,215 68
Loss to the government.....	\$590,305 94
For the year ending June 30, 1883, defalcations of.....	\$423,915 08
Compromised for.....	112,064 92
Loss to the government.....	\$311,850 16
Total amount of defalcations compromised during the fiscal years ending June 30, 1881, 1882 and 1883.....	\$1,854,399 80
Compromised for.....	441,388 78
Loss to the government.....	\$1,413,011 02

LOSSES UNDER VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS.

Assuming that the McPherson-Coon statement is correct as to the loss to the government by reason of defalcation of United States officers from the commencement of Washington's administration to 1861, which they make \$24,441,829 82 for a period embracing seventy-two years, we will now show by the reports of the solicitor of the treasury, which have been transmitted to Congress by the secretary of the treasury and the attorney-general in their annual reports, that the McPherson-Coon statement is flatly contradictory of the reports of those cabinet officers from Lincoln's first inauguration down to June 30, 1883. These reports show a total loss under the eight years of Lincoln's administration from official defalcations, after deducting collections, of \$24,657,972 16.

Stolen under Grant (first term), \$8,765,729 77.

Stolen under Grant (second term), \$4,374,599 26.

Stolen under Hayes, \$1,725,523 81.

Stolen under Arthur's three years, \$6,004,800 27.

Total loss, after deducting collections, \$45,227,625 27.

It is thus shown by the official reports to Congress of the different secretaries of the treasury and solicitors of the treasury from 1861 to 1883, that during the twenty-three years of Republican administration of the government the thefts of public money aggregated \$45,227,625 27, while from Washington's administration down to Buchanan's, both inclusive, a period of seventy-two years, there was a loss of but \$24,441,829 82, an excess of \$21,065,795 95 stolen in twenty-three years of Republican administration over seventy-two years of previous administrations, covering every President from Washington to Buchanan, both inclusive.

LET THE BOOKS BE OPEN.

The acting secretary of the treasury having lent his signature to the McPherson statement as correct, and thus certified to a flagrant falsehood, as is shown by the reports of the comptrolling officers, the law officers and secretaries of the treasury, including such men as Salmon P. Chase, William Pitt Fessenden, Hugh McCulloch and Lot M. Morrill, it furnishes another strong reason why the books of the treasury should be opened for inspection by new parties.

In this connection it would be well to refer to the following fact:—Four years ago Senator Davis, of West Virginia, when chairman of the committee on appropriations of the United States Senate, overhauled thoroughly the accounts of the treasury department. He forced from unwilling witnesses, all of whom were officers of the treasury department, the testimony that there were 1,300 treasurers on the treasurer's book, and millions of dollars entered so as to make the books balance without a single item to show when the entries were so made or what had become of the money. This extraordinary showing did not receive proper attention at the time because we were in the midst of great prosperity.

MAGNITUDE OF THE THEFTS.

The magnitude of the amount stolen in the twenty-three years of Republican administration can be estimated in the following manner: If the amount stated—namely, \$45,227,625.57—was invested in standard silver dollars and stored in the treasury, subject to the order of the Star routers and the other Republican thieves who have taken it, calculating that one thousand pounds would make a fair load for a horse and cart, and that \$16,000 weighs one thousand pounds, it would take 2,845 loads of \$16,000 each to haul it to Republican headquarters.

Estimating a cart and horse to be fourteen feet long, and allowing four feet between each cart, if placed in single file this Republican stealing would make a procession nine miles and three-quarters long.

Gov. Cleveland to the Farmers.

Thousands of people from Southern New York and Northern Pennsylvania came in special trains to participate in the demonstration in Governor Cleveland's honor at the Elmira (N. Y.) State Fair. The governor received a perfect ovation on his arrival at the fair grounds. Crowds followed the carriages in which the party rode from point to point, and there was continual cheering for Cleveland. The governor spoke from his carriage, which stood in front of Manufacturers' hall. He was introduced by the president of the Fair association and was welcomed with repeated rounds of cheers, the great crowds being extremely enthusiastic. His speech was frequently interrupted by cheers and liberal applause. He spoke as follows:

"It affords me great pleasure to meet you here to-day, and to have an opportunity of inspecting the annual exhibition which illustrates the condition of the agriculture of our State. I regard these annual fairs as something connected with the State government, because, to some extent at least they are fostered and aided by public funds, and I am sure that no good citizen is inclined to complain of the appropriation of a small part of the people's money to the encouragement of this important interest. The fact that this is done furnishes a distinct recognition by the State of the valuable relation which the farmers and its farms bear to the prosperity and welfare of the Commonwealth. We boast of our manufactures, exceeding, as they largely do, those of any other State, but our supremacy is clearly shown when we recall the fact that in addition to our lead in manufactures the value of our farms and their products is second only among the States. There is a fixedness and reliability in agricultural pursuits which are not always found in other branches of industry and human effort. The soil remains in its place ready to be tilled, and the farmer with ruddy health and brawny arm depends alone upon the work of his hands and the aid of a kind Providence for a reward of his labor. Thus our farmers are the most independent of our citizens. They produce or have within their reach all they need for their necessities and for their comfort. Their crops may be more abundant at one harvest than at another, and their products may command a higher price at one market time than another. These conditions may expand or contract the ir ability to indulge in luxuries or in expenditures not absolutely needful, but they should never be in want of the necessities or comforts of life. This is the sure result of patient and well-regulated farming. When the farmer fails and becomes bankrupt in his business, we may, I think, confidently look for shiftlessness, or a too ambitious desire to own more land or stock than he can pay for, or an intermeddling with matters that bear no relation to his farm, or such mismanagement and ignorance as demonstrate that he has mistaken his vocation. Fortunes may be quickly amassed in speculations, and lost in a day, leaving a bad example and perhaps demoralization and crime. The tradesman or the manufacturer, by the vicissitudes of trade, or through the allurement of the short road to wealth, may in a day be overcome and bring disaster and ruin upon hundreds of his neighbors. But in the industrious, intelligent, and contented farmer the State finds a safe and profitable citizen, always contributing to its wealth and prosperity. The real value of the farmer to the State and nation is not, however, fully appreciated until we consider that he feeds the millions of our people who are engaged in other pursuits, that the product of his labor fills the avenues of our commerce and supplies an important factor in our financial relations with other nations.

"I have not come here to attempt to please you with cheap and fulsome practice, nor to magnify your worth and your importance; but I have come as the chief executive of the State to acknowledge on its own behalf that our farmers yield full return for the benefits they receive from the State government. I have come to remind you of the importance of the interests which you have in charge, and to suggest that notwithstanding the farmer's independence he cannot and must not be entirely unmindful of the value and importance to the interests he holds of a just and economical government. It is his right and his duty to demand that all unjust and inequitable burdens upon agriculture and its products, however caused, should be removed, and that, while the furtherance of the other interests of the State have due regard, this important one should not be neglected. Thus by his labor as a farmer and in the full performance of his duty as a citizen he will create and secure to himself his share of the result of his toil and save and guard for all the people a most important element in the prosperity of the State."

Blaine's Dodging.

There is some outcry about Mr. Blaine's shameless "dodging" the prohibition ballot in Maine. But what did those who ignorantly admire him expect?

He dodged General Butler by climbing out of the window of a committee room. He dodged the Mulligan letter inquiry by adroitly getting himself transferred to the Senate and thus putting himself outside the jurisdiction and powers of the House. He has been a dodger and trickster all his life—a "smart" politician. Between Mr. Blaine and Governor Cleveland there is in this matter a difference wide as that between Jupiter and a mud puddle. Let any one compare these following documents and decide for himself about the character of the two men:

LETTER OF SPEAKER BLAINE.

AUGUSTA, June 29, '89.
MY DEAR MR. FISHER—I thank you for the article from Mr. Lewis. It is good in itself and will do good. He writes like a man of large intelligence and comprehension. Your offer to admit me to a participation in the new railroad enterprise is in every respect as generous as I could expect or desire. I thank you very sincerely for it, and in this connection I wish to make a suggestion of a somewhat selfish character. It is this: You spoke of Mr. Caldwell's offer to dispose of a share of his interest to me. If he really desires to do so I wish he would make the proposition definite, so that I could know just what to depend on. Perhaps if he waits till the full development of the enterprise he may grow reluctant to part with the share, and I do not by this mean any distrust of him. I do not feel that I shall prove a deadhead in the enterprise if I once embark in it. I see various channels in which I know I can be useful.

Very hastily and sincerely your friend,
JAMES G. BLAINE.

Does any one believe that Governor Cleveland would write such a letter as this to "My dear Mr. Fisher?" Or does any one believe Mr. Blaine capable of sending in so vigorous and manly a veto message?—New York Herald.

Labor's Voice for Cleveland.

F. F. Donovan, of Brooklyn, has received a letter from Walter N. Thayer, in charge of the executive department of the Workingmen's assembly, in which this representative of the labor interests shows why Cleveland should be elected. The letter is dated Troy, and says:

"While I am in full sympathy with the object of your meeting I feel it to be my duty to decline the invitation to participate in it for the reason that, being at the head of a powerful organization in this State, my presence might be construed as voicing the sentiment of that organization and pledging its support to a certain candidate. This I have no right to do, for no person has the right to pledge the labor vote to any party or candidate. The great majority of the members of labor organizations are intelligent, thinking people, who will permit no man nor party to own them, and I honor them for it. Were I occupying an unofficial position in the ranks of labor I should gladly avail myself of the opportunity to talk to the workingmen of Brooklyn and compare the records of the presidential candidates on labor measures. In determining for myself which of the candidates I should support I carefully looked over the record of the three principal candidates, viz., Cleveland, Blaine and Butler.

"The former I find has been less than two years in official position where he could benefit or injure labor, and I find him credited with having placed on the statute-books of the State laws giving to the workingmen a bureau of labor statistics, abolishing the manufacture of hats in State prison, prohibiting the manufacture of cigars in tenement-houses, making workingmen preferred creditors in cases of assignments or failure, and the bill abolishing contract labor in the prisons and penitentiaries of the State. So I find in eighteen months Governor Cleveland has given to labor five very important laws.

"Messrs. Blaine and Butler have held public positions nearly all their lives, either under national or State government, and I have yet to be shown a single law that either of these gentlemen has ever been instrumental in passing that was especially beneficial to labor. Can it be possible that in a life almost wholly passed in public service the opportunity never presented itself to either Mr. Blaine or Mr. Butler to lighten by legislation the burdens borne by labor? If so, they have been very unfortunate indeed.

"These are my reasons, briefly stated, why I shall support Governor Cleveland."

General George B. McClellan on Campaign Issues.

General George B. McClellan has sounded the key-note of the political situation in the following words:

"This contest now is the mighty, and, I firmly believe, the crucial effort of the honest, the self-respecting, the patriotic classes of this people to overthrow an oligarchy of office-holders which, in all its tendencies and manifestations, is unrepentant—is fatal to the permanence of Republican institutions. I believe in the integrity of this people. I believe that, awakened to a realizing sense of the danger that threatens them, they will sweep away as chaff this class that threatens their liberties and is disgrac-

ing them at home and abroad. I believe they are awake to the danger. They proved it ten years ago by the indignant uprising against the infamies at Washington. They proved it two years later by electing the candidate whose promise was 'reform.' They proved it in 1878. In 1880 the vote for the President elected was a minority by over half a million of the total vote cast. In 1882 they proved it by the election of Cleveland in New York, of Pattison in Pennsylvania—two men known only by the reforms which simple honesty and a high sense of official duty and responsibility had enabled them to work in corrupt municipal governments. Both were elected by an interecine revolt against corruption in the party opposed to them. As I have said, this tendency has been uniform, and, though not given to exploit itself except in acts, all powerful. It is the patriotism of the American people asserting itself. It now supports the man who most admirably represents it and is fighting for the principles, clear cut and defined, which account for its existence and its strength."

"Save Me From My Friends."

If Mr. Blaine wishes to make any headway between the present time and election day, he had better borrow General Butler's infallible receipt for bottling up the too exuberant "Joe" Hawley, who put his foot into it incontinently at a Blaine meeting in Brooklyn. After ringing the changes on slavery and the war until his hearers became bored with subjects dead and buried, Senator Hawley broke forth into the alarming remarks: "Our party can purify itself. It is doing it; it has been doing it. I was not a Blaine man, but I tell you that I never had the idea that James G. Blaine made a dishonest dollar in the world." This was not enough for the effusive Hawley, but he must add to it by suggesting that Blaine had said in a private letter something that indicated that he might have been tempted to do so. "I wish he hadn't written that," continues this indiscreet orator. "It would have been better if he had not connected his private with his public business." Such language from the Blaine stump is calculated to give the candidate another sunstroke like that which the Mulligan letters produced, and to make him groan in bitterness of spirit, "Save me from my friends."—New York Telegram.

Appealing to the Criminal Classes.

It's saying a good deal, we admit, but on the whole the most disreputable and abandoned act of this most disreputable of campaigns has been perpetrated by the New York Sun in trying to get votes against Cleveland among the criminal classes by republishing a column and a half story of the executions of two men in Buffalo at which Governor Cleveland officiated, as sheriff. This is the first case that we can recall when a direct appeal has been made by any newspaper to thieves, burglars and murderers to vote down a man because he performed his simple duty as a representative of the law. Cleveland hung these convicted murderers in exactly the same sense that the judge hung them, that the jailor, the night watch, or the gallows itself hung them. The Sun's depraved story may be effective among jailbirds and evil-doers who dread the halter of justice; but how does it strike reputable citizens who believe in pains, penalties and prisons as a protection against crime?—New Haven (Conn.) News.

Tracing Freight Cars.

Since the establishment of long freight lines, some of which extend from one end of the country to the other, it is very common for freight cars to be lost. They may, and a great many of them do, stray into places where they should not have gone.

It is "nobody's business" to send them back. To meet this difficulty most of the large companies now employ "car-tracers," whose sole occupation it is to look up and secure the return of vagrant cars. It is a queer vocation. One of these car-tracers said to a St. Louis reporter:

"Some people think I have light work, but they are not familiar with my duties. I have been car-tracer a long time, and am compelled to say that some of the cars I was sent out to find nearly a year ago are still missing. The other day I struck a junction on one of the railroads running through Illinois, when I happened to see a strange-looking object near the track that looked like a sort of canal-boat with windows in it. Out of curiosity I walked up to the concern, in order to get a better view of it. On close examination I found it contained letters and a number on its side. Referring to my book, I discovered it was the identical car I had been trying to find for six months. The railroad company had established a station there, it appears, without building a station-house. Determined to supply the deficiency, the residents of the neighborhood had confiscated the car, placed it near the track, cut holes in for windows, and converted it into a depot. I reported my discovery, and shortly afterward the company hauled the car away. Sometimes we find the remains of the demolished cars at the foot of some high embankment, sometimes cars with the roofs sticking above the surface of some ponds, and sometimes we never find them at all."