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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1884.
THE DUTY OF THE HOUR.

We reproduce in this issue an article from the *Sunday Welcome* on the Senatorial question, and, although we do not endorse the principle involved, yet as a question of policy, in the direction of the greatest good to the greatest number of the toiling people, we could wish that the line of policy foreshadowed in the *Welcome* may succeed. If it shall not, some person soul and body owned by, and in the interest of, the corporate monopolies will surely carry off the prize as was the case two years since when Dolph the heartless, was elected. Had a sufficient number of Democrats stood in with the immortal "18," Oregon would have been spared the calamity of being misrepresented in the United Senate by a railroad official, at least. And we think it likely if a break do occur in the Republican line in January, it will be fostered and championed by Republicans of the anti-monopoly stamp, pure and simple. If this shall be so, the duty of the Democratic members, practically all of whom were elected as anti-monopolists, will be plain.

Farmers in many parts of Nebraska are burning corn for fuel. They figured the matter out to their own satisfaction, and are confident that it is cheaper to burn corn than to sell it and buy coal. Soft coal is worth in this State about 22 cents a bushel, and corn does not find a ready sale in the rural markets for more than 12 cents. Experiments have shown that two bushels of corn will produce more warmth than one bushel of coal, and farmers are thus burning the former and saving themselves the trouble of hauling it to market and returning loaded with coal.—*Omaha Bee*.

What with corn at 12 cents and wheat at 40 cents, and India cutting into our Liverpool market—a retaliatory measure directed against our commercial exclusiveness—and Russia supplying Southern Europe with breadstuffs, it must strike a conjurer as a puzzle too deep and intricate for solution, what earthly benefit the farmer is deriving, or in the nature of things can derive, from our monopoly tariff.

A number of Representatives are considering the propriety of offering a resolution in the House for an investigation of the use of Government vessels for junketing expeditions. While there is but little doubt that our law makers are actuated by the purest of motives in this matter, they are a misguided set, and reason from false premises. Let them stop a moment and calculate the immense sums which would annually be saved to the Government in the single item of "repairs" if our "war" vessels could be induced to cruise around say the Cape Cod waters and cross the track of a fishing smack.

The *Coast Mail*, with a degree of truthfulness which distinguishes the average Blaine organ, and presumably taking its cue from its late chief to "claim everything," stated in its last issue that the magnetic man had a plurality over Cleveland of the popular vote. As a matter of fact the very latest and most reliable returns put the popular vote for Cleveland at 4,913,901; for Blaine, 4,347,653; for Butler, 434,589; for St. John, 159,633. Excess of Cleveland over Blaine, 652,422. Total vote, 10,036,073.

The *Pittsburg Dispatch*, treating of the political effect of apt and artful alliterations, says the "three misuses of the late campaign were Beecher, Hall and Burchard." The *Dispatch* might have added Blaine and Butler.

Senator Fair of Nevada, opposes any joint action between England and the United States in the building of the Nicaragua canal, since, as he says, England would go in with her customary greediness and "claim everything"—not "for a few days," either

THE SENATORIAL EMBROGLIO.
It may not be amiss here to say that had the Democrats gone into the last Senatorial fight on the half-a-loaf-better-than-no-bread principle, and followed in the wake of Siglin of Coos, and Gates of Wasco, and a few others, by voting for Mitchell, the arch monopolist would not have been saddled upon us, and the present Oregon Republican Senator would be in honor bound to them to assist in the confirmation of Cleveland's appointments. It is to be hoped that no such bull-headed obstinacy will characterize their conduct at the next Legislature. It is simply impossible to elect a Democrat, but if the members of that party will support a minority candidate and resist the railroad or National Bank favorite, they will in all probability be able to make some terms that will redound to the party's benefit. That there will at least be ten Republicans to stand out and refuse to support the caucus nominee, appears at this time to be an assured fact. If the Democrats again fail to take advantage of Republican dissensions, as in the case of Dolph and Mitchell, they will, as before, get worse than nothing. "Dying in the last ditch" Democracy is an ignorant, pig-headed breed that never sees beyond its nose, and ought never to be allowed to cross the first ditch, except as a political corpse. Intelligent men never fail to try to make the best of a bad bargain.—*Sunday Welcome*.

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