

Cleveland in 1894.

About the walls over defeat, however, a word should be said regarding the facts. This word cannot be repeated too often. Mr. Cleveland implies, evidently with intention, that the democratic defeats of 1896 and 1900 were due to the Chicago platform and the nomination of Bryan. His memory is short. Every political observer who recalls the dark days of 1894, 1895 and 1896, before the Chicago platform was formulated or Bryan thought of as a candidate, knows that the democratic party was doomed to disaster by Cleveland's administration and leadership. Never mind the blame, we are speaking of facts. Cleveland had been elected president in 1892 with a democratic congress at his back. In the lower house there were 219 democrats, making a clear majority of 41. Two years later this democratic majority was swept away. Only 93 democrats were elected, and the republicans controlled the new house by a clear majority of 74. Mr. Cleveland takes occasion to say that in Tilden's day "and afterwards northern democratic states were not rare curiosities." He implies that "Bryanism" has made them so. But in fact they became so at the congressional elections of 1894 two years ahead of "Bryanism." In that year not one northern state, not a solitary one, elected a majority of democrats in its delegation to congress; although the delegations of Indiana, New Jersey, New York, Wyoming and Wisconsin had democratic majorities in 1892. From California there was only one democrat in 1894, where there had been four in 1892; from Illinois, none in 1894, where there had been eleven in 1892; from Indiana, none in 1894, where there had been eleven in 1892; from Iowa, none in 1894, where there had been one in 1892; from Kansas, none in 1894, where there had been one in 1892; from Massachusetts, one in 1894, where there had been four

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in 1892; from Michigan, none in 1894, where there had been five in 1892; from Minnesota, none in 1894, where there had been two in 1892; from Nebraska, none in 1894, where there had been one in 1892; from New Jersey, none in 1894, where there had been six in 1892; from New York, five in 1894, where there had been twenty in 1892; from Ohio, two in 1894, where there had been ten in 1892, from Pennsylvania, two in 1894, where there had been ten in 1892; from Rhode Island, none in 1894, where there had been two in 1892; from West Virginia, none in 1894, where there had been four in 1892; from Wisconsin, none in 1894, where there had been six in 1892; from Wyoming, none in 1894, where there had been one in 1892. Even the southern state of Tennessee had only six in a delegation of ten in 1894, while Missouri had only four in a delegation of fifteen. The senate, too, was changed from democratic to republican. In the congress which followed the elections of 1894 there were only 39 democratic senators to 42 republicans; whereas in the congress following the elections of 1892 there had been 44 democratic senators to only 36 republicans. Things democratic grew steadily worse, until in the spring of 1896 the democratic nomination for president went a-begging. Excepting the impossible Hill, none of the old "available" nor the new "possibilities" wanted it. Utter defeat for the democratic party was regarded as inevitable by the leaders of both sides. Even if all this was not Mr. Cleveland's fault, it was a result of his administration and the signal for his "banishment."

Such was the hopeless condition of the party when the Chicago platform and Bryan were unexpectedly put forward to save it from dropping out of the political arena or into a scarcely concealed alliance with the republicans. At once its prospects revived, and in spite of Cleveland's going over to McKinley's support, it continued to regain strength. Under the circumstances, success was impossible. But the heaviest load it had to carry through it all was not "free silver," nor "Bryanism" of any kind, but the unpopularity of the Cleveland administration. Outside of financial circles that was the tune which the republican orators sung, and that, together with Hanna's corruption fund, were the cause of Bryan's defeat. Bryan had not only to ward off Cleveland's blows upon his flank; he had also to carry Cleveland's heavy record upon his back. Yet, see the results. The popular vote for Bryan in 1896 was larger than that for Cleveland in 1892 by 946,007. His proportion of the total vote was 46.7 per cent, whereas Cleveland's, in 1892, was only 46.08—Bryan's being larger by two-thirds of one per cent. In harmony with this result was the change in the democratic representation in congress. From a total of only 93 elected in the last Cleveland year (1894) the democratic representation was raised in the

first Bryan year (1896) to 130, and the republican majority reduced from 74 to 24; while in the second Bryan year (1900) the democratic representation was raised to 153 and the republican majority reduced to 20. And although it might still be said in Mr. Cleveland's phrase, that northern democratic states were "rare curiosities," they had at any rate regained some of the representation which during his administration they absolutely lost. The number of democrats in the California delegation was increased from one in 1894 to two in 1896, though both were lost in 1900; that of the Illinois delegation from none in 1894 to five in 1896, and eleven in 1900; that of the Indiana delegation from none in 1894 to four in 1896, and the gain held in 1900; that of Kansas from none in 1894 to one in 1900; that of Massachusetts from one in 1894 to two in 1896 and three in 1900; that of Michigan from none in 1894 to one in 1896, which, however, was lost in 1900; that of New York from five in 1894, to six in 1896 and twelve in 1900; that of Ohio from two in 1894 to six in 1896, but reduced to four in 1900; that of Nebraska from none in 1894 to two in 1900; and that of New Jersey from none in 1894 and 1896 to two in 1900; while the democratic delegation from the southern state of Tennessee rose from six in 1894 to eight in 1896, remaining at eight in 1900, and that from Missouri from four in 1894 to twelve in 1896 and thirteen in 1900. Under these circumstances Mr. Cleveland crowds the line of delicacy very close when he implies that the democratic defeat since Tilden's day are chargeable to Bryan's leadership.—Louis F. Post, in Chicago Public.

Farmers' Co-Operative Associations

The farmers' co-operative elevators and grain shipping associations have been very successful and the movement is generally indorsed by all citizens of Kansas, (except members of the grain trust), and have proved very beneficial and satisfactory to the members of those associations. The state or central association was formed May 18, 1901.

However, the organization was not perfected so as to conduct business under the laws of this state until the 18th day of October, 1901. The co-operative associations have done a very successful business considering the manner in which they have been opposed by the grain trust of the state.

Not more than a dozen associations were ready to commence business on the 1st day of last August. We now have upwards of eighty associations organized and many other localities preparing to organize. Every one of the co-operative associations has been successful. There is not a single exception. They have reduced the margin for handling grain at stations where they have organized from 2 to 4 cents per bushel and yet made their business pay expenses and several of the associations have made net profits ranging from 5 to 150 per cent on a run of six months' business.

One among the largest associations made a net profit of 33 1-3 per cent on

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its capital stock for a six months' run. Another co-operative shipping association with \$811 capital stock made a net profit of \$1,183.20 during the first six months of its business life. The farmers' co-operative shipping associations of Kansas will handle more than 1,600 cars of wheat between the 1st day of August, 1901, and the 1st day of August, 1902, and during the same space of time they will have transacted more than a million dollars' worth of business.

The Harmony Dinner.

Richmond (Mo.) Missourian: Ex-President Grover Cleveland and Ex-Senator David B. Hill made speeches at the Tilden club meeting in New York the other night. They pleaded for harmony, but wanted the harmony to be written to their own tune. Mr. Cleveland did not say he would vote the democratic ticket any more, yet he gave a lot of advice which indicated that he would support the ticket if the party was reorganized to suit him. Mr. Hill spoke eloquently for reorganization so that he would not have to sulk any more. Mr. Bryan did not attend—neither did the six-and-a-half million voters who think that the party is already organized. The democratic party wants to add to its strength—but it cannot add to either its strength or its reputation by putting a premium on bolting.

Penn's Grove (N. J.) Record: Mr. Cleveland says: "The democratic party should abandon policies that have been rejected by the people at the polls. Let us see. The party under his leadership had 220 democratic congressmen, eight populists and 126 republicans elected in 1892 with him. They made a tariff law in 1894. At the election in 1894 under his leadership the democratic party elected only 104 congressmen, seven populists and 246 republicans, a republican majority of 135 over all. Since his pet tariff policy of reduction of only 7 per cent the party was rejected by the largest defeat ever received. Why does he abandon a policy rejected by the people at the polls? While Bryan was defeated in 1896 he carried 130 democratic and twenty-five populist congressmen, while the republicans got 202, and had a majority of only forty-seven. In 1900 Mr. Bryan carried 151 democratic congressmen with him and eight populists while the republicans elected 198, and have only forty-nine majority. Under Cleveland's rule the party had its greatest loss, and under Mr. Bryan's leadership it has greatly recovered, notwithstanding the opposition of Cleveland's friends and of hard times caused by him contracting the currency to make a gold standard to suit the money changers of Wall street. Mr. Cleveland is a false leader, a false prophet and a false reasoner.

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