

The Chicago Chronicle says that those who object to the republicanization of the democratic party are "mistaken in the assumption that there are two wings of the democratic party." The Chronicle adds: "There is a democratic party and there is a populist party." Commenting upon this statement, the Buffalo (N. Y.) Times says: "According to this there must be about 6,500,000 populists and 133,000 democrats, judging by the returns of 1896."

Under the title "How to Improve Your Diction," a writer in the Philadelphia Inquirer instructs the rising generation in this brief way: "For clearness read Macaulay. For logic read Burke and Bacon. For action read Homer and Scott. For conciseness read Bacon and Pope. For sublimity of conception read Milton. For vivacity read Stevenson and Kipling. For imagination read Shakespeare and Job. For elegance read Virgil, Goldsmith, Milton and Arnold."

Do not forget that in the great work of preserving democratic principles and protecting the democratic party from the merciless hands of the trust magnates, even the humblest member of the party can accomplish great results. One democrat firmly devoted to the principles of his party, ever watchful for the welfare of his country, and willing to speak and to work according to his convictions, may accomplish more in the organization of his party and the successful defense of its principles—than a dozen reorganizers equipped though they may be with an ample supply of syndicate money.

When the Cuban scandals involving Rathbone and Neeley, proteges of Mark Hanna and intimate friends of Perry S. Heath, became known, republican papers insisted that these were mere "slips," and provided no reason for criticism either of Mr. Hanna or of Mr. Heath. The speculations of Rathbone and Neeley, considerable though they were, were insignificant compared with the corruption and dishonesty that has prevailed in the postoffice department. Is it not reasonable to believe that corruption is not confined to one department in the federal service, but that under the powerful republican machine that was built up in the campaign of 1896, fraud and dishonesty may be exposed in every department by rigid investigation?

The Chicago Tribune, a republican paper, says: "The London Times has received advices of the annexation by Great Britain of three small uninhabited islands near Pitcairn Island, including Ducie Island, which has a safe harbor. Mr. Simons, the British consul at Tahiti, it is stated, regarded the island as valuable in view of the prospect of the completion of the Panama canal, and, fearing that France would annex them, he did not wait for instructions, but had the islands taken over," etc. The words have a familiar ring. In other words, the Tribune means to say that there is small difference between the preliminaries of imperialism on the part of Great Britain and imperialism on the part of the United States. Whatever explanation may be advanced for the steps taken, "the words have a familiar ring."

Referring to the report that actuated by the disclosures in the postoffice scandal, Perry S. Heath will resign his position as secretary of the republican national committee, the New York Commercial-Advertiser says: "That he should resign from the secretaryship of the committee, under compulsion, if that be necessary to get rid of him, is not a debatable question. His continuance in that position would be a scandal which would taint the entire party management." But if Mr. Heath's continuance in the position of secretary of the republican national committee would be "a scandal which would taint the entire party management," is not the situation so serious as to call for something more than mere resignation from the committee secretaryship? If Mr. Heath is innocent of wrong-doing, then there is no reason why he be required to resign the position of secretary of the republican national com-

mittee. If Mr. Heath is guilty, he should be called to account in spite of the high position he occupies in republican councils and regardless of the fact that he has the favor of the men most influential in republican circles.

An instructive puzzle is presented in fable form by the publication known as "Smart Set." Here it is: An American heiress was wooed by a foreign prince, who urgently besought her to become his wife. In order to test the sincerity of his love she asked: "Will you still marry me if I give away all my money for charity and become as poor as yourself?" The prince considered awhile and then responded: "Yes, provided you will still marry me if I renounce my title and become a plain, republican person like yourself." Query: Did she agree to his proposition?

Judge Siebecker, according to a correspondent for the Boston Post, has displayed Solomon-like wisdom in at least one of his decisions. According to the Post story, two men recently appeared before Judge Siebecker. One was a butcher, who claimed that the defendant owed him \$10 for a meat bill. The defendant, a strikingly thin and gaunt figure, denied the bill. Statements and counter-statements followed each other with great rapidity. The lie was passed, but the constable intervened. "When was this meat purchased which you sold the defendant?" asked the judge. "During the past four weeks, your Honor," declared the butcher. "Then I decide this case in favor of the defendant," remarked the judge, deliberately, as he scrutinized the emaciated figure before him. "His appearance indicates that he has not eaten \$10 worth of meat in his lifetime."

Perry S. Heath, former first assistant postmaster general, has recently been called upon to make several denials. In his latest, Mr. Heath refers to "the attacks upon me by the yellow newspapers." It has come to be quite common that public officials whose shortcomings have been exposed undertake to minimize their offenses or excuse themselves on the plea that they are made the victims of "yellow journalism." But the revelations concerning Mr. Heath's administration are so serious that references of this sort will not fill the bill. If he is really innocent, he should explicitly meet the charges. The investigation has proceeded too far to permit it to be sidetracked by any immaterial retorts. The only adequate answer to what Mr. Heath calls the product of yellow journalism is a reasonable showing that the charges which the so-called yellow journals make are without foundation.

The example set by Tom L. Johnson of Ohio in invading the district of a democratic legislator and opposing his nomination, because of his faithlessness to public trust, has had a good effect throughout the country. The Omaha Bee, a republican paper, says that "if retribution were administered promptly everywhere to public officials who repudiate platform pledges, as has been administered by Tom L. Johnson, platform pledges would some day count for something." The Bee adds: "To make good his declaration that none of the turncoats should be returned Mayor Johnson invaded the county of one of them and by personal appeals compassed the defeat of his aspirations for renomination. The trouble generally is that the public memory is too often too short to harbor up the misdeeds of the sell-out lawmaker and to keep his bad record confronting him whenever he bobs up for a new commission."

Commenting upon the proposition that Grover Cleveland be made the nominee for the democratic party, the New York World says: "The question is not, as it so obviously is with President Roosevelt, what he desires; it is what the democratic party may desire, need and demand. Mr. Cleveland's nomination for the fourth time may not seem very probable just now. But stranger things have happened." It is significant that the World now admits that "Mr. Cleveland's nomination for the fourth time may not seem very probable just now." Heretofore the World has been cocksure

that Mr. Cleveland will become the democratic nominee in 1904. But the interesting point is that the World admits that the question is not what Mr. Cleveland desires, but rather "what the democratic party may desire, need, and demand." This is, indeed, a great concession for the World. Heretofore we have been told that the question is not what the democratic party may desire but what Mr. Cleveland may desire.

A Washington dispatch announces that Mr. Roosevelt has called upon a number of federal judges handling suits brought under the Sherman anti-trust law as to the best methods to be pursued by the bureau of corporations in gathering information relative to the trusts. It will occur to a great many people that Mr. Roosevelt is going to a great deal of trouble to discover a method that is readily at hand. The first section of the Sherman anti-trust law provides for criminal prosecution. The injunction method is merely incidental. Mr. Roosevelt has not undertaken to enforce the criminal clause nor has he explained his failure to do so. Rich and influential men are not afraid of injunctions. They do, however, fear prison bars. This fact is shown in the recent and several prosecutions of rich and powerful men because of corruption in municipal politics. In the presence of fearless prosecutors like Joseph W. Folk of St. Louis, the rich corruptionist trembles and in the presence of the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law, backed by a vigorous prosecutor, the most powerful of the trust magnates would tremble. If Mr. Roosevelt is sincere on the trust question, let him enforce the chief feature of the Sherman anti-trust law.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean that has never been known to be particularly friendly to democrats, says: "Having received the highest honor that men can confer upon their fellow man, and neither hoping nor desiring more, Grover Cleveland must still continue to do what he can for his country and his party, asking no reward for himself, but simply doing what he can for them. He must do this, and he does do it, not because he is an office-seeker, but because he is a good party man, a good citizen, and a patriot." It is interesting to be told by this republican paper that Mr. Cleveland asks no reward for himself, but is lying awake nights because of a desire to do what he can for his party. According to this republican paper, Mr. Cleveland is "a good party man." There are a great many democrats who will object to republican papers like the Inter-Ocean designating for them "a good party man." If Mr. Cleveland had been "a good party man," he would not have caused his administration to stand sponsor for the abuses which the financiers sought to place upon the people; and if he had been "a good party man" he would not have deserted the party simply because it had taken a position that was not agreeable to Wall street.

The Chicago Tribune, a republican paper, while contending that no evidence has yet been produced that Perry S. Heath "has committed any criminal act," admits that "it is sufficiently established that he ran constantly on the borderland of outlawry." And then the Tribune says: "The irregularities in the postoffice department under his administration were constant and deliberate. He knew all about them. He sanctioned them. He instigated them. He wished to violate the civil service rules by making appointments in an irregular and unlawful manner, and he did it. He behaved as a representative of the lowest type of political spoilsman. This is not the worst about Mr. Perry Heath. His tenure of office in the postoffice department was marked by scandalous conduct from beginning to end. More than any other official in Washington he seems to be responsible for the frauds in the Cuban postal service." This being true, why should Mr. Roosevelt hesitate to direct the arrest and prosecution of the secretary of the republican national committee? Can it be possible that the Roosevelt administration intends to confine its proceedings against small politicians who were without important influence? It would, to be sure, be unfair to convict Mr. Heath on the charges preferred against him without fair and thorough investigation, but if half that has been charged is true, Mr. Heath should be proceeded against just as would be done in the case of an influential man against whom serious accusations were made.