

ROOTS OF THE DAY

EASTERN DEMOCRATS.

Evidence of increased activity among the rank and file of Democratic voters in the New England and Middle States is rapidly accumulating. This is encouraging because when the mass of the voters reach a determination that the party in their State must line up with the national party on the great issues of the day, local party bosses will be compelled to respect their will or give way to other leaders. It is a well-known fact that the great mass of the Democratic voters in those States are in perfect sympathy with their party nationally, but have in most instances permitted a small coterie of party leaders to dictate the action of conventions in the matter of platforms and candidates. All that is needed to set the party right in either of those States is for the voters to realize the necessity for action and then to act, says the National Watchman.

The Democratic party of the nation has been through the fire of regeneration. It has proven its loyalty to the interests of more than 95 per cent. of the American people. Its platform in 1896 attracted to the fold more than a million and a half new voters. Under such circumstances it only requires a few courageous Democrats in each county to take up the work of educating Democrats in the principles of the Chicago platform when they will turn out to the primaries and control the party. There is no reason to believe that the Republican voters in the Eastern States are more satisfied with their party than they are in other States, or that thousands of them would not eagerly join the Democrats in the interest of good government and in opposition to the gold combination and the monopolies. But the Democrats in such States cannot expect converts to their party so long as they permit the party in the State to be at variance with the party in the nation and acknowledge the leadership of men who oppose the national platform of the party. Human nature is the same in the New England and Middle States that it is in the balance of the country, but the power of the banks and corporations is greater in those States, and to oppose them may require more courage in the individual than in other localities. But there is no reason to believe that the people cannot successfully cope with any opposition that exists. Therefore, we make an especial appeal to our friends in those States to become active in the discharge of their duties as citizens of our great republic, believing that they will find the task of lining up the Democratic hosts in such States, with the balance of the nation, a much easier one than they anticipate. "The battle is not to the strong alone, but to the active, the vigilant and the brave."

Bryan in New York.

New York Democrats never listened to a more clear or considerate or dispassionate analysis of the currency question than that presented at the great \$1 a plate Jeffersonian banquet, by Hon. W. J. Bryan. The points made are familiar to Western readers of Mr. Bryan's speeches, and need not be repeated, but to the plain people of the East, who are dependent on the Eastern press for their news, Mr. Bryan's presentation of the question came almost like a revelation, and created an enthusiasm seldom witnessed in the great city of New York. If one comment more than another is to be made on Saturday evening's banquet, it is that Mr. Bryan's speech was a demonstration that Democracy stands for something more and something better than a mere subservience to the policy of the Republican party, which is constantly striving to elevate the dollar above the man, and to place a premium on wealth, rather than manhood. It is also suggestive of the fact that the masses of the East—the common people, if you please, as distinguished from the millionaires and multimillionaires—are not antagonistic to the same classes in the West, but are animated by the same hopes and aspirations. They are just seeing the light, which long ago dawned on the West. The revolt is certain to be a revolt against the domination of those who while masquerading as Democrats are branded with the Republican dollar mark.—Denver News.

New National Issue.

The municipal ownership of all public utilities has attained the dignity of a national issue, as the question is agitated throughout the land. The rights of the public must be defended against the greed of corporate arrogance, and when in the end the corporations will have to give way to the people they will have no one to blame but themselves for the result. It was under a mistaken policy that unconditional franchises were granted heretofore, and the time for correcting that mistake has arrived. Corporations must be put on the same level with private individuals, and no longer must they be permitted to receive anything without adequate compensation for it.—Denver Post.

Safe Course for Democrats.

The strength of the Democratic party is in its determination to combat every phase of McKinleyism and fetch the government back to its old moorings in the hearts and affections of the people. It would be hard, so far in advance of the meeting of the convention, to say just what particular policy of the

Republicans will be the most threatening to the liberties of the people at that time, but meanwhile all Democrats should keep a careful watch upon McKinley's efforts to subordinate the true purpose of the government to the interests of the powers and influences which made his election possible three years ago.—Kansas City Times.

Hanna as a Handicap.

If we were not pledged to the discouragement of slang we should say that Mr. McKinley's intimate friends think he can be renominated and re-elected "on his shape," even if Mr. Hanna should blunder every hour of every day and night. They should not deceive themselves. Mr. Hanna is a living factor. He is not as promising a mentor as he used to be. He appears to be floundering about in Ohio trying to attach himself and the administration to some local boss candidate for Governor rather than striking out and blazing the way himself. He may tear the President down rather than build him up.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Trouble Ahead for the Major.

Perhaps the new Speaker may be able to rule with as severe a rod as that wielded by Reed. But it is doubtful. If he is not able to enforce Reed's discipline the trouble of the administration will be augmented. The majority of the Republican party in the new Congress will be but 13. Really it looks as if Thomas B. Reed fully understands how easily his friend, William McKinley, will be embarrassed, and has deliberately quit so as to afford the President an opportunity to get into as much hot water as he can before the convention next year.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Reproach on Pennsylvania.

Mr. Quay has received a "vindication" by his acquittal on the charge of misusing State funds and by his nominal appointment by the Governor to succeed himself. But it is a vindication that doesn't vindicate in the minds of the vast majority of the American people. The man who telegraphed to his partner in the use of State funds, "Shake the plum tree," continues to run Pennsylvania, but there is no credit to Pennsylvania in the fact. Mr. Quay's bossship is one of the anomalies of American public affairs.—Denver News.

Protection a Failure.

The Dingley tariff law has been of no benefit to the wool growers; it has been of great disadvantage to the woolen and worsted manufacturers, and has compelled a great many of the American people to go without the clothing they have been accustomed to use and are desirous of buying. It furnishes an illustration of the disastrous effects of this form of protection, which injures practically everybody and is of advantage to nobody.—Boston Herald.

Way to Beat Trusts.

Every trust in the United States will vote the Republican ticket in 1900, yet in that year we will hear the Republican stump orators screeching themselves hoarse in denunciation of trusts in order to induce the people to vote the same ticket that the trusts are supporting. The trusts cannot be beaten in that way. The only way that the trusts can be beaten is to elect the candidates that the trusts are opposing.—National Watchman.

From Surplus to Deficit.

Robert E. Pattison was the last Democratic Governor of Pennsylvania, and a mighty good one. When he retired from office in January, 1895, the State Treasury had a surplus of between \$6,000,000 and \$7,000,000. Where are those millions now? Ask of the winds. Instead of a surplus there is a deficit of over \$10,000,000. Here is a difference of over \$10,000,000 as a result of having men like Quay in control of the affairs of the State.—Quincy Herald.

Road to Relief from Trusts.

The people of the United States are fast awakening to a sense of the enormity of the political guilt involved in trust criminality. They know where lies the blame, and will, if they be true to their dearest interests, thrust from power the political organization that has surrendered the industrial, trade and transportation agencies of the country into the hands of unscrupulous, pitiless and aggressive corporate wealth.—St. Louis Republic.

Brief Comment.

Why call them by different names, when they are all steal trusts? If they had only found some way to preserve "preservalline," all might have been forgiven.

Agualdo may be a barbarian and a traitor, but he seems to know how not to be captured.

This assimilation on the island of Luzon is merely preliminary to corresponding programs on the other 11,999 islands.

President McKinley's Philippine commissioners forgot to incorporate an abstract of title to the islands in their recent proclamation.

The beef court of inquiry may whitewash the administration and the beef trust, but the people will have something to say on that matter later.

If a large standing army is created in the United States under any pretext whatever it will signalize the beginning of the end of popular government.

RECENT INVENTIONS.

A novel idea in the tea and coffee line recently patented consists in placing enough of the article for one brewing in a small porous sack and attaching it to a metal weight, which sinks to the bottom of the pot when dropped in.

A Frenchman has patented a composition for closing punctures in pneumatic tires, consisting of gutta-percha, a balsam, birdlime, turpentine, a saturated solution of celluloid and a solvent to prevent the mass from hardening inside the tire.

An Ohio woman has patented a teakettle attachment which will prevent it from swinging around against the hand when tilted to pour out the water, a piece of wire being secured to the side of the kettle and extended to the handle.

A Canadian has designed an ice skate which has the foot plate pivoted to the center of the runner, with spring at the front and rear, which allows the foot to rock up and down at each stroke and cushion the skate in passing over rough ice.

Slipping on icy pavements is prevented by a handy shoe attachment made of wire, spring clamps being formed of a shape similar to the sole of the shoe, with short prongs set in the under side to sink into the ice and afford a secure hold for the foot.

Fish are easily caught by the use of a new spring hook, comprising a single piece of wire bent to form a spring at the center, with barbed hooks at the ends, the later being crossed when the hook is set and spreading apart when taken by the fish.

A Georgian has patented a driving bit which can be used to give medical treatment to the animal, the center of the bit being hollow, with screw-threaded ends, to which flexible bulbs can be attached to contain a medication, discharging it into the horse's mouth.

Flies and other insects are exterminated by a Missouriian's unique device, a small lamp being suspended over a tub of water, with vertical screens on opposite sides of the flame against which the insects strike as they attempt to circle around the light, falling into the water and drowning.

LONG TRIPS.

An Eight-Thousand-Mile Continuous Railway Journey.

Some idea of the immense extent of Russian territory may be gleaned from the enormous railway runs that are possible there.

In the latest edition of the Continental Bradshaw there may be found times of starting and arrival of a continuous series of railway trains making up a connected railway journey which would begin at Calais and would end at Kijutsch, the most easterly station at present open on the Trans-Siberian Railway, and about twenty hours' journey east of Krasnoyarsk, in Central Siberia. The length of this journey is, as nearly as possible, 5,100 miles, and of this distance some 3,500 miles are traversed in Russian railway carriages. The time occupied would be 12 days and 20 hours. It is possible to travel by rail as far as Irkutsk, the capital of Eastern Siberia, which is 600 miles east of Krasnoyarsk. This exceeds the longest possible American run by nearly 1,000 miles. Our longest transcontinental trip is in Canada, from Halifax, in Nova Scotia, where the traveler may get into a Canadian Pacific car and go through to Vancouver, on the shores of the Pacific, 3,666 miles away. The longest possible run would be from Halifax to Vera Cruz, on the Gulf of Mexico, via New York, Montgomery and Mexico, a distance of about 4,200 miles. When the Trans-Manchurian Railway joins the Trans-Siberian, as it will do, at Onon, it will be possible to travel continuously by rail from Calais to Port Arthur. The latter part of the route has not yet been definitely decided upon, but the estimated total distance will not be much less than 8,000 miles, which will be performed in about twenty days.

Expanding Our Language.

Some new words have necessarily been added to the English language since the introduction of the horseless carriage, and the vocabularies of other tongues have also naturally been similarly enriched in all countries where such carriages have become popular.

With few exceptions all these words are technical, and their true significance is only understood by the electrician and the machinist. The members of the Flemish Academy of Anvers recently determined to frame a word which would be readily intelligible to all who understand the language of Flanders and who had ever seen a horseless carriage, and the result was that after much deep thought they framed the following word:

S n e l p a a r d e l o o z o n d e r s p o o r w e g t r o l j u i t g.

This euphonious word signifies "a carriage which is worked by means of petroleum, which travels fast, which has no horses, and which is not run on rails." This is, from one point of view, a fine example of multum in parvo, but it may be questioned whether one extraordinarily long word is preferable to half a dozen short words. The Flemish people, however, think differently, and the academicians of Anvers have been highly complimented by them on their linguistic skill as seen in this unique word.—New York Herald.

"Do you find people generally pretty civil?" asked a life insurance agent of a bill collector; "they nearly always ask me to call again."—Bazar.

Theatrical angels rush in where wise men fear to tread.



Governor Stanley, of Kansas, recently received this note: "Dear Sir—I understand you said you were going to take a week off to tear up the big pile of letters asking you for jobs. If everything else is gone, I would like the job of tearing up letters."

A new postoffice was established in a small Western village, and a native was appointed postmaster. After a while complaints were made that no mail was sent from the new office, and an inspector was sent to inquire into the matter. He called upon the postmaster and asked why no mail had been sent out. The postmaster pointed to a big and nearly empty mail-bag hanging up in a corner, and said: "Well, I ain't sent it out 'cause the bag ain't nowhere nigh full yet."

Two ladies visiting in Washington recently went to the Capitol to hear the proceedings in the United States Senate. Most of the galleries being filled, they approached the door-keeper of the Senators' gallery, where admission is by card. As they did not possess this passport, the door-keeper suggested that they procure one from any Senator they might be acquainted with. "But we do not know any Senator," they replied. "Well, it is very much to your credit," said the door-keeper; "pass right in, ladies."

While Sir M. E. Grant-Duff was governor general of Madras a judge imposed a fine on a native Christian. The latter had no lawyer to defend him, but he put in the following remarkable plea: "Your honor may be right, I may be wrong; I may be right, honor wrong; let honor give me back the fine, and then at day of resurrection, when all hearts will be open, if I am wrong, I will most gladly, sir, return your honor the money."

In this mercenary nineteenth century it is hardly credible that there are people in the world to whom a "tip" is a thing requiring explanation, but a colonial bishop relates that once when a visitor to a home in Victoria, Vancouver Island, gave a tip to a Chinese attendant the latter straightway took it to the lady of the house, ignorant that it was his portion. When the matter was explained he divided the money equally and presented half of it to his mistress, with the remark, "You have hard work, therefore you have half pay." How the heathen Chinese has been calumniated, to be sure!

The law-makers of the United States took no official note of last Ash Wednesday, although the Senate has frequently adjourned on that day. Mr. Edmunds always moved for adjournment on religious anniversaries, and Mr. Bayard usually followed the same custom. Mr. Voorhes once attempted to. One Ash Wednesday he arose at the opening of the session, and with great solemnity remarked: "Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now adjourn out of respect to this, the anniversary of the crucifixion of our Lord." But the stenographers set him right on the record.

A teacher in a primary school recently read to her pupils "The Old Oaken Bucket." After explaining it to them very carefully, she asked them to copy the first stanza from the blackboard and try to illustrate it by drawings, as the artist illustrates a story. Pretty soon one little girl handed in her book with several little dots between two lines, a circle, half a dozen dots, and three buckets. "I do not understand this, Bessie," said the teacher; "what is that circle?" "Oh, that's the well," was the reply. "And why do you have three buckets?" "Oh, one is the oaken bucket, one is the iron-bound bucket, and the other is the bucket that hung in the well." "But what are the little dots?" "Why, those are the spots which my infancy knew."

Frederick the Great once requested his generals to submit to him plans of campaign for a supposititious case. Hans Joachim von Zieten, the famous cavalry general, produced a queer diagram in black ink. It represented a big blot in the center, intersected by two black lines, whose four terminals ended each in a smaller blot. The King was furious, and upbraided his old comrade in arms bitterly for what he considered disrespect. In explanation Von Zieten said: "Why, your majesty, I am the large blot in the center—the enemy is any one of the four smaller blots. He can march upon me from the right or left, from the front or rear. If he does, I simply advance upon any of the four lines and lick him where I find him." Frederick was satisfied.

Isaac Parker, of Fort Smith, Ark., probably sentenced more men to be executed than any other judge who ever lived, not because he was so unrelentingly severe, but because he had the hardest lot of criminals to deal with that ever came within the jurisdiction of such an official. One day the Judge looked compassionately over his spectacles at one young scamp and said: "In consideration of the youth and inexperience of this prisoner, I shall let him off with a fine of \$50." Before the Judge had done speaking the very fresh young man coolly ran his hand into his trousers pocket, remarking nonchalantly as he did so: "That's all hunky, Judge; I've got that much right here in my jeans." "And one year in the penitentiary," continued the Judge. Then, looking over at the convict in a quizzical sort of way, he added: "Do you happen to have that in your jeans?"

FREAK MARRIAGES.

Dwarfs and Giants Who Have Been Joined in Wedlock.

The marriage which took place recently at Bolton, England, of Charles Morris, a dwarf of barely three feet, known as General Small, to Sophia Goddard, whose height did not exceed that of her husband, was made much of by the British press, but many similar and more remarkable weddings are on record.

Tom Thumb, who was hardly 30 inches high, married in 1863 Lavinia Warren, who topped him by a bare inch. A child was born to them three years later, but it died while yet an infant. Tom Thumb himself died in 1883, and his widow some years later married another dwarf. Her sister, Minnie Warren, who had been bridesmaid at the first wedding, likewise espoused one of her own stature in the person of Commodore Nutt, the best man on the same auspicious occasion.

Two remarkable dwarfs—the smallest human beings, indeed, on record—were exhibited at a hall in Piccadilly. Their names were Lucia Larate and General Mite. The former, when 17, stood 20 inches in height, and weighed under five pounds, while the latter was an inch taller, and four pounds heavier. These mites, who were a prodigious attraction, and received the distinguished honor of being exhibited to the Queen, were married before an immense throng of people at St. Martin's Church.

To pass to the opposite extreme one may record the marriage of Miss Anna Swan to Captain Martin Van Buren Bates, which was solemnized some twenty years since. Bates, who was for a giant a remarkably well-made man, stood about 7 feet 8 inches and weighed 278 pounds, while the bride was some two inches and sixty-four pounds less. To these two was born a child, which, however, only survived its birth a few days. It certainly gave promise to rival its parents' giant proportions, for when it came into the world it measured considerably over two feet in length.

Another remarkable marriage was that which took place on Nov. 30, 1892, at Huber's Museum, New York, when Luauaney Morlan, weighing 578 pounds, married Miss Annie Bell, who weighed 560 pounds. Without doubt they are the most weighty couple living.

WHEN SHE LOVED HIM BEST.

But She Had No Fear that She Loved Him Well Enough to Marry.

"Oh, when he's so nicely dressed and shaved and has such a dashing air you can't imagine how much I love him!"

A young woman said this to me one day regarding her husband—that hoped-to-be, who had just left us.

And this is what I said in reply: "I am afraid that your love is hardly deep enough for marriage."

She opened her pretty blue eyes and protested.

"I'm sure I don't know what you mean."

"Then I told her what I meant."

"There is no greater leveler on earth than marriage! It is the enemy of pretense and acting in general. You've got to love very hard and very deeply to stand its disillusionments. Your Charley won't always be nicely dressed and shaved and dashing and polite. There will be days when he'll look like a private, with his forty-eight hours' growth of beard, and wear costumes that will hardly appeal to your dainty taste. He'll have his surly mornings at breakfast, too, and his days when your dinner will know him not. He may not pick his words when he gets angry, and will possibly wish to read the paper when you want him to read poetry."

"He never will," she said vehemently. "I hope not," I replied, "but they're really all very much alike. You must prepare for some surprises. He wears his company manners now, but they'll be him a little after marriage, I fear, and he will often take them off."

"I think you're just horrid," she said. "Yes, I suppose I am," was my response. "and so I withdraw all that I've said. It's a foolish thing to point out the rocks in a road that looks all smoothness and sunshine, and I ought to have had better sense."—Polly Pry in New York Herald.

A Dog Attacks a Cable Car.

As a cable train was moving toward the Washington street tunnel, a water spaniel dashed into the street and seized the fender with his teeth. He hung on with determination, growling fiercely and shaking his body as though trying to worry the whole car.

He jumped first to the side, then almost directly in front of the slowly moving car, taking a new grip with his teeth.

The gripman clanged his bell. The spectators shouted. But the dog showed no intention of quitting.

The animal was still clinging to the fender when the train entered the Washington street tunnel. The darkness, however, scared the canine, and those who were still watching soon saw the dog caper back to the street, a little crestfallen because he had not succeeded in "worrying" the train.—Chicago Journal.

Black Babies.

The children of the blackest Africans are born whitish. In a month they become pale yellow; in a year, brown; at 4, dirty black; and at 6 or 7, glossy black.

Ungrateful persons are about as rare in proportion as benevolent ones are uncommon.

Time heals all wounds. Money is also a great healer.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

Some Financial Facts.

In 1816 England adopted the gold standard and at once put forth an unusual demand for gold. Had there been no bimetalism in France, gold would immediately have risen greatly in value. As it was, though, a large part of the gold required by England was furnished by France, but the demand of the latter for silver to take the place of the gold withdrawn by England operated as a compensation and prevented the silver from falling or the gold from rising, except to a very limited extent. Again, when the American civil war broke out England was forced to turn to India for cotton. She had no silver and the East Indians had no use for gold. So England exchanged large amounts of gold for French silver. This, combined with the immense gold production of California and Australia, drained France of a large production of her silver.

The conditions of 1816 were now reversed, and England's extraordinary demand for silver was offset by the French demand for gold to take its place, and again the parity was preserved. These are the facts recognized by all monetary writers of sufficient standing to be remembered fifteen minutes after they are dead. Wolowski, on the bimetallic side; Jevons, on the gold monometallic side; the Royal Gold and Silver Commission of England, consisting of six bimetallicists and six monometallicists, all concede the correctness of the principle here stated. But without consulting the authorities at all, it ought to be manifest to any person of ordinary intelligence who stops to think. When a rich and powerful country like France said to every man who had gold bullion, "Bring it to the French mint, and it shall be coined at the rate of one ounce to fifteen and a half ounces of silver," at the same time saying to the owners of silver bullion, "Bring that along and have it coined at the rate of fifteen and a half ounces to one ounce of gold, and when so coined they shall both be full legal tender everywhere in France," it ought to be plain that no man with a grain of business sense would take much less than the French mint rate.

It was not necessary that "all the silver in the world," as the American goldite puts it, should be poured into the French mint. As the royal commission well said, the fact that as a last resource it could go there was enough. Every other purchaser had to pay substantially that price or not get the metal, thus helping to sustain the French mint rate. If France, with an average of less than half our present population and wealth, and not more than one-tenth our resources, could maintain the ratio of 15½ to 1 from 1803 to 1865 (at which time the Latin Union was formed), there is no reason to doubt that we can now sustain the ratio of 16 to 1. But it can not be done with any limitations upon the coinage of one metal while the other has free access to the mint. This is conclusively proved by the fact that the moment the coinage of silver was limited, that of gold remaining free, they began to drift apart. Compared with each other, gold went up and silver went down. In other words, the limitation of the coinage of silver destroyed "bimetalism" and fastened the gold standard upon the United States. Let the reader bear this steadily in mind, and be not misled by the special pleading of those who advocate "bimetalism" on a gold-standard basis.

Colorado and Bimetalism.

The people of Colorado have studied the silver problem as a question of money. Although they now produce more gold than silver, they know that the destruction of silver as money means low prices, business stagnation and hard times in every gold-standard country. They understand that the prosperity of Colorado is inseparably connected with that of her three sister states, and even though she may enjoy exceptional advantages from her increased output of gold, they know that what injures the rest of the country a great deal will necessarily injure Colorado some. It is not within the range of honest figuring to show how the demonization of silver had done the United States any good. But it can be easily shown, and has been a thousand times, that it has done the country infinite harm.—Ex.

Reduces Number of Dollars.

The full establishment of the gold standard means the virtual destruction of one-half of the world's metallic money. Bimetalism means the preservation of it all. That is the whole question in a nutshell. A boy can not eat his cake and keep his cake at the same time. Silver can not be demonized and preserved as a money metal at the same time. Silver can not be made the sole standard and "each dollar" kept as good as new at the same time. It is literally impossible, because under such a system we are constantly met by emergencies in which nothing but the gold dollar will do. Men declare every day that they want one dollar as good as every other dollar, and yet cling to a policy which makes such equality impossible.

Trees yield many things besides timber. Turpentine, for example, is the raw sap of the pitch-pine. "The turpentine merchant," says a writer on forestry, "in whose wake miles of dead trees, presenting a pitiable sight, are to be found." It is the turpentine orchards of the Mississippi that he describes. The forest suffers in life as well as in death in the service of men.