

**NAVAL OFFICERS.** Two years ago probably none of us gave much thought to our navy, nor, if we did think of it, imagined that we would ever come to feel pride in it. Now probably all of us believe our navy to be the best thing we own and as good as anybody else's navy. This branch of the service seems to be little known in other countries as well; we are not the only ones to be agreeably surprised in the performance of our maritime force when the time came. Hear what a French writer of 1870 says of the sailors who were called in to aid in the defense of Paris:

"These marines were the pets of the city throughout the siege. It was they who put the dilapidated forts in condition; it was they who set the example of exact discipline, of invincible courage, of manly and cheerful energy. But what especially took the Parisians by surprise was the exquisite politeness and profound learning of the officers of the navy, from the admiral down to the least of the lieutenants; it was the distinction of their manners and the loftiness of their language. What a contrast with the old leather-breeches of our land forces! We were all immensely struck by it. I recall the applause that these troops received when they first marched into Paris. Our eyes were full of the lamentable spectacle presented by the troops of the line and the volunteers, ill-clothed and straggling. When we beheld these sturdy chaps, so resolute in appearance and so picturesque, with their leather hats and their shirt-collars turned down over their shoulders, there was just one cry: 'Those are men there, real men!' And their countenances were so reassuring; they breathed such a confidence! Ah, if all our army had only been like them!"

**A CORPORATION JUDGE.** In Pennsylvania even the Quay-style of republicans cannot quite swallow the nomination on their ticket of the president of a corporation for a member of the superior court of that state. But the populist stomach of Nebraska is that of the political ostrich and, therefore, gorges itself with the nomination of House Rent Holcomb, president of a fire insurance company, for the supreme court.

The Philadelphia North American (rep.) devotes four pages today to a history of the connection of Josiah R. Adams, the Quay nominee for superior court judge in Pennsylvania, with the Granite State Provident Association and kindred concerns. Adams, it says, was the Pennsylvania attorney for the Granite State Association, and has been receiver for three years of the Pennsylvania assets of the wrecked concern, "but the stockholders have never been able to get an accounting from hi'm."

He was also president of the American Investors' Trust, later merged in the American Investors' Company, whose charter was revoked by the Rhode Island legislature, and some of whose officers were arrested in Hoboken for practices in this city and are now under indictment here.

**MR. BRYAN AN AWKWARD DODGER.**

The questions propounded to Mr. Bryan by Governor Brown left the gentleman from Nebraska no excuse for remaining in Kentucky.

"Fraud was committed in the convention; fraud, gigantic and systematic; prearranged fraud," said Governor Brown. "Do you indorse it, Mr. Bryan?"

"By the violation of every rule of parliamentary law, the principle of representation was stricken down. This violence was sustained by police intimidation. Do you indorse these proceedings, Mr. Bryan?"

"The election law is a force bill, a blow at free elections, and an outrage on justice. Do you approve it, Mr. Bryan?"

"I am here to answer these questions," said Mr. Bryan. Then he added: "I did not come to sit in judgment on any convention. I did not come to discuss any election laws. I came to say: 'Hurrah for Bryan!'"

The picture is humiliating. The spectacle of a boasted orator driven from the field by three questions is an instructive one. Mr. Bryan lacks the resources of a debater. He makes a

captivating harangue, but when he is asked to discuss a question, he is more helpless than a ten-year-old member of a debating club.

Mr. Bryan may felicitate himself on his escape, but he leaves his old followers in a truly wretched plight. They had taught themselves to believe that in Bryan they had another Mirabeau who had acquired Webster's power in debate. Now they see him overthrown by three questions that go to the heart of the whole controversy in this campaign.

If Mr. Bryan did not come to discuss conventions and election laws, in the name of a peaceful democracy, why did he inject himself into this state campaign?—Louisville (Ky.) Post.

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