

OFFICIAL BONDS. Are the people capable of self-government? If they are, then after selecting a county treasurer or state treasurer, or any other officer to whom are entrusted the money and business of the public, they ought not to ask a few citizens to go upon an official bond of that officer, to protect all the citizens against loss by his official acts.

Do the majority, when they demand indemnity from a small number of citizens, against wrong-doing by an official selected by a majority of all the citizens, endorse and aver faith in the popular power to pick out a proper officer, or evince their mistrust of the capability of selection by the multitude?

When A. B. and C. are asked to do, what no man of family has a moral right to do, that is, to jeopardize, by signing an official bond, the substance which belongs to their own families, is it not a confession that the majority are incapable of electing perfectly and certainly competent and honest men? Is it not pleading the "baby act," to ask a few men to guarantee the community against the losses which may accrue from agents whom all men have been given a right to vote for?

Every law in Nebraska providing for bonds of indemnity to be given by county treasurers and other fiduciary officers, ought to be repealed. Then, after that repeal, when it is perfectly known that no treasurer or other officer can default without having the loss visited pro-rata upon every property holder or tax payer in the county, there will be a premium on character for honesty and ability, in all nominating conventions. Then no political organization will name for such offices, men who have not business and moral qualifications to efficiently and satisfactorily discharge the duties and conserve the trusts which they carry.

If a majority are capable of self-government, capable of selecting by their votes, the proper persons to do the public work, a minority ought not to be asked to indemnify them against speculations, or malfeasance, by the men of their own choice.

THE CONSERVATIVE will continue this discussion from time to time.

WEEPING. It is credibly reported that when the denunciations of the judges of the Supreme Court and the ridicule of their decisions in the insular cases by the peerless commoner, of Lincoln, reached that august body of venerable men, they broke with lachrymose unanimity into a torrential tear-shedding downpour. It is said that Chief Justice Fuller called a special session of the Supreme Court in Chambers, and read to the aghast members

thereof, the tremendous scolding which "the peerless one" had administered. The modest, but majestic criticism, condemnation and annihilation of the opinions of the several judges—coming as it did from a "matchless" expounder of the constitution—burned into their very souls, and the dome of the capitol resounded with the wails of their infinite anguish. It is time that the Supreme Court of the United States should know that the master of the law lives at Lincoln, that he, now and then, runs for the presidency, and that in the hollow of his intellect he holds judges, as the sea holds little snail shells in its mighty depths.

BETTER RESIGN.

After the sowing broadcast by the associated press dispatches, of the timothy of truth and the clover of logic, gleaned from the measureless thought-fields of "the peerless" citizen of Lincoln, how can the Judges of the Supreme Court fail to resign immediately? How dare they cumber the seats of the mighty any longer? Has not the unfailing prophet spoken? Has he not with a single cyclone from his vast knowledge of the needs, possibilities, economics, subjugations, and crown-threatening, which encompass round about the "plain people," erased, obliterated, pulverized and blown away the mental microbes of that judicial antiquity? What do they signify now of laws or of the constitution since their master has spoken?

SELF RELIANCE. The first rudiment of a successful career, is self reliance.

The individual who believes he can honestly earn a living for himself by his own manual and mental labors, has the only faith, out of which prosperity and happiness can be evolved. No human being can sincerely respect his own personality, if it is incapable of efforts, out of which self-support is certain to come. The grandest and sublimest condition of humanity is that of useful work. By work, and by work only, can solid character be achieved. Mere reputation may bubble up, foam over and evaporate like a soft summer drink. But character abideth forever, and influenceth generation after generation of our race for either good or evil.

PACIFIC DAILY. The ablest, best edited, most news-bringing journal on

the Pacific coast, is the San Francisco Daily Call. It is full of enterprise, and its leading editorials are distinguished for virility, forcefulness and lucidity.

THEAT NEW POLITICAL PARTY. The partisan press generally condemns the suggestion of a new political organization for the United States. The real, zealous, strait-waisted organs of the alleged republican party are unanimous in ridicule, denunciation and protestation. And the journals of the agglomerated elements of discontent, communism, populism and anonymous aspirations which have been fused into an alleged democratic party, are equally one-minded and fervid in their condemnation of the proposed conservative party. Both sets of political exhorters aver that there is no room for another party, and that the two old ones must fight out the salvation of the American people. Some republican editors have proclaimed the proposed political organization of the best citizenship for purely political purposes, "a mere figment of the imagination."

These sensitive partisans are sightless. They fail to see that the best citizenship was organized

Neither Won. and did gallant service in the elections of 1896 and 1900. They are incapable of understanding that neither of the old political parties was powerful enough to elect a president in either of the years named. Each named a candidate for the presidency in those years. Neither could, within its own organization furnish votes to elect its nominee in either year. Both have confessed that fact. McKinley and Bryan have each said or admitted that the so-called gold democrats determined the presidency of these United States. Everybody knows, however, that they chose between what they considered two dangers, and selected that which they thought to be least menacing to the country and to the best interests of its inhabitants.

There is and has been ever since 1884 a very well organized balance of power party in America. It elected Cleveland twice and Harrison once and McKinley twice. It prevented the election of sixteen-to-one-ism and squelched the vagaries and fallacies of populism in 1900. The independent, unchained, unbossed and unpurchasable vote of the United States gets bigger and bigger every year. It may not nominate presidents. But it can and does elect them.

The Balance of Power. It elected Cleveland twice and Harrison once and McKinley twice.

It prevented the election of sixteen-to-one-ism and squelched the vagaries and fallacies of populism in 1900. The independent, unchained, unbossed and unpurchasable vote of the United States gets bigger and bigger every year. It may not nominate presidents. But it can and does elect them.

The small-souled, little-eyed mercenaries who edit the narrow-gauge partisan papers of the country seem incapable of comprehending an American citizenship too sturdy and strenuous to be bound and bossed by mere partyism. And yet that sort of men have determined each national election since 1884.

Why not have an independent voters' organization? What harm can a balance-of-power party bring about?