

DEMOCRATIC PROSPECTS.

President McKinley's statement that he is not a candidate for a third term, and would not accept a renomination if it were tendered to him, has turned attention afresh to the possible candidates for the succession. There is no lack of such on the republican side. In making a catalogue we might safely take, as a beginning, a list of senators of the United States belonging to that party, including their presiding officer. Fifty-three of these will be disappointed, and it would be a safe wager that the fifty-fourth will not get the prize. Governors of states have had better luck than senators during the present generation. There are some such now who are well within the range of choice, but, as it is not our custom to make nominations so long beforehand, we shall not do violence to their modesty by mentioning them. There are no generals or admirals who stand out with sufficient distinctness to make one of them a probable choice three years hence. As for judges, the unwritten law which runs against the union of things political and judicial is still in force, and ought to continue so.

Wealth and Poverty.

The wealth of the republican party in presidential timber is not more remarkable than the poverty of the democrats. All of their senators and their governors of states except three (Colorado, Montana, and Washington) are southern men. All of these who have sufficient force of character to be considered for the presidential office were either in the confederate army or in the confederate service in some other capacity. This ought not now to be a disqualification, but it is still considered such by a large body of voters in the North, so that it would be unsafe to put one of them in nomination, even though he has since fought, like Gen. Wheeler, under the stars and stripes. Moreover, the veterans on either side in the civil war are now well advanced in years.

Besides senators and governors, there are some men of position and reputation in the democratic party, but they are mostly outside the range of choice by reason of their failure to support Mr. Bryan in one or both of the campaigns when he was the party's regular nominee. Among these may be mentioned John G. Carlisle, Charles S. Fairchild, William C. Whitney, J. Sterling Morton, William F. Vilas, and ex-Senators Caffery and Lindsay. There remain, of those who seem to be still in the public eye, Richard F. Olney, David B. Hill, Arthur P. Gorman, and Mr. Bryan himself. Mr. Olney will be in his seventieth year before the election of 1904 takes place, and that fact alone will probably take him out of the range of choice. Of Hill and Gorman it is sufficient to

say that, however attractive they may be to old-fashioned democrats, they can get no independent support, without which success at the polls will be almost impossible.

Possibility of Another Populistic Nomination.

Thus, although we do not believe that Mr. Bryan will be nominated again, the poverty of the democratic party in available candidates is such that we are forced to consider him as a possible candidate. Will his chances before the people be any better in a third race than in the first and second? We think not. On the contrary, they will be worse, for the reason that the issue on which he made his first campaign, and which he insisted on dragging into his second one, has ceased to be attractive to his own followers. However much they may be attached to him personally, they no longer associate him with a principle of government. The silver question is dead, to all intents and purposes. The South will never again allow a silver plank to be put in the national platform. Yet Mr. Bryan is tarred with that stick as badly as ever.

He told his friends privately in the campaign of last year that, if he should be elected president, he would find some way to make government payments in silver under the present law. As late as February 4, of the present year, he wrote a letter to the chairman of the house committee on coinage, protesting against the pending measure to make silver dollars redeemable in gold, because, as he said, that would be "equivalent to the retirement of silver as standard money." Silver was actually retired as standard money in 1873. A standard is something by which measurements are made. To suppose that silver is standard money requires us to believe that 371¼ grains of the fine metal are worth a dollar, whereas anybody can buy that quantity for less than fifty cents. We mention this latest output of economic doctrine from Mr. Bryan merely to show that, whatever his party or the public generally may think of the silver question now, his views remain unchanged, and apparently unchangeable. Therefore the party cannot nominate him a third time without running against the same stone wall that destroyed its chances last year.

Something Unexpected May Happen.

To get rid of the silver issue completely, it is necessary, therefore, to nominate some other candidate than Mr. Bryan, and, as we have seen, first-rate candidates are scarce. Still, the democratic party in ante-bellum times achieved considerable success with second-rate candidates. Polk, Pierce, and Buchanan could not be classed higher, nor could Van Buren at the time when he was nominated. Moreover, new and

strong leaders often develop very quickly. Much will depend upon events to happen in the next three years, and upon the issues that develop themselves meantime. The republican party may fall asunder by reason of the tariff question, the trust question, and the reciprocity treaties, all locked together as they are. New issues may be forced to the front by the still undetermined questions in the supreme court respecting the status of the Philippines. Our relations with Cuba may become critical. Thus the chapter of accidents may do something for the democrats.—New York Evening Post, June 12, 1901.

AN INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE.

On May 25th, at Connersville, Ind., was organized a society to be known as the International Society of Arboriculture. The purpose of the association is to introduce judicious methods in dealing with forests and woodlands; to advance and advocate a public interest in this subject; to promote the afforestations of unproductive lands; to encourage the planting and care of shade trees in parks, public and private grounds, and along streets and highways; to inspire an interest in our remaining native forests, and groves of ancient trees, and to seek their preservation; to supply information to railway officials in regard to timber culture for railway uses, and incite railway and other corporations to plant trees for economic purposes.

It is reported that the society starts out with a membership of 300 persons. J. Sterling Morton, Nebraska City, Nebraska, is president; Jno. P. Brown, Connersville, Indiana, is secretary.—Nebraska Farmer.

CASE OF BETTER JUDGMENT.

If Paul Morton, now of the Atchison, has been offered the management of the Harriman combination, and a salary of \$50,000 a year, he is in better luck than his father, J. Sterling Morton, was ever in. The elder Morton and the editor of the Age, though they have not met since the commencement of the war between the states, have been personal and political friends for nearly fifty years, and that is longer than Paul has lived. J. Sterling has been a member of the Nebraska territorial legislature, territorial secretary and territorial governor, and head of the agricultural department in Cleveland's cabinet, but he never got \$50,000 a year or anything like it. In a letter to the writer several years ago, he said his sons had shown better judgment than their father. They had kept out of politics and attended to business.—Beaumont (Tex.) Age, June 7, 1901.