

indifference, that even genuine pain would be sweet boon. He rejoices in the thought that it may even yet be a possibility for him to suffer. Well he knows there are no plums, yet he grasps the thistle, his recklessness overpowers one.

He pricked his fingers very much  
Which made poor Simon whistle.

This passage is a masterpiece, it has no parallel in literature. With Simon the game is played, is lost. For an entire lifetime he has sought truth, he has found thistledown. Then across the barren fields of thistles and of sand burns rang the defiance of that untamed spirit, that last whistle, at once a satire and a dirge, mournful, mocking, maddening, Lehmer-esque. And Child Simon to the dark tower came.

#### CURRENT COMMENT.

About the middle of May President Harrison ended his tour of the southern and western states. In a trip of over 10,000 miles, the longest ever taken in the United States by any president, the originally scheduled program was followed throughout and not an accident happened anywhere to mar the pleasure of the party. President Harrison is the first president to make an extended trip through the wild, but vigorous and energetic west and northwest. From his tour he has undoubtedly gained a much better appreciation of the needs and demands of the great west. Being himself a western man, this will be all the more likely to influence him in some practical way to the mutual advantage of himself and the west. Our president was everywhere enthusiastically received with all the respect due the chief magistrate of the greatest nation of modern history. In his 140 short speeches, the president showed his usual amount of common sense with which he seems splendidly gifted. Everywhere the speech was suited to the occasion. It is true the president spoke much on the tariff and on subsidies, and possibly this made him appear to be campaigning. Yet it was quite excusable when one remembers that the tariff and subsidies are two subjects that most vitally concern the west. Moreover the president must have something to talk about. Why should not then, the president speak upon matters which were of interest and importance, and in regard to which he had his honest convictions? Honest convictions must always be respected by honorable people. How silly indeed would the speeches of the president have seemed if he had given his hearers only "taffy" each time. To a foreigner, no doubt the most interesting and remarkable feature of the whole tour, was the spectacle of the chief magistrate of a nation travelling without military escort in a comparatively new and undeveloped portion of the country. It was indeed a sight for every American to be proud of. What a commentary upon the highly developed civilization of the nations of Europe! Rude, uncultivated, lacking in polish and in refinement, corrupt and degraded in many practices and customs, our country may be; yet in all rugged and manly virtue and honor our beloved country far outshines any foreign country.

The greatest curiosity in the political ring at present is the new-born party, the "people's" party so called. The question just now, however, is not what is it, but what will it be? If the politicians could only determine now what this new party will be in 1892, matters, you see, would be greatly simplified. At this stage of the contest, the noble, patriotic politicians of the old parties are considerably troubled in spirit. To the truth of this, let the derisive sneers of the party papers bear witness. It is an infallible sign, that when the partisan press derides some new movement in politics, the sleep of the care-worn politicians has been broken by

nightmare. In the present case, even the doughty politicians of the hitherto much abused third party are at a loss as to what the outcome will be. As a rule, they believe this new movement will work them well in so far as it sunders old party ties. But in such a case, will not this young prodigy move right on, using the advantages gained for its advancement? These doughty politicians almost against hope think not. Truly the campaign of 1892 will be a momentously mixed one. It will outrival even the famous campaign of last year in this state. As one views the advent of this new party into national politics, the question naturally comes, has this arisen for no good reason? Our far-sighted party papers all say that the movement is only the outgrowth of the discontent arising from bad crops for a year or so, and that it is led by men of no note, by unthrifty demagogues. If the first accusation be true, then how comes it that the uprising extends the whole country over? The crops have not failed but in the western states. The only truth in the accusation is this, that it took a bad year to show the farmers how poorly they were off, and how little they had laid up. After so many prosperous years, so far as crops go, they were unable to tide over one bad year without absolute suffering. It was the realization of this fact (and from this more also) that brought the farmers to a charge bayonets. As to the second charge that the leaders are unthrifty and little known demagogues, it is quite enough to say that this is the charge brought against the leader in every reform. Yet undoubtedly those "demagogues" would grant that they were unthrifty if by that is meant unsuccessful, and would say further that that is just what they so strongly objected to. As regards these "demagogues" being little known, it would be well to remember there is in this nation a mighty reserve force of men such as the late Chief Justice Waite whom only circumstances of the greatest importance and of the most urgent necessity draw out into prominence. Some observers of political events declare that the present movement closely resembles the know-nothing movement of *ante bellum* days. These observers say that the "people's" party is a class party advocating class measures, as did the know-nothing party, and that the movement is destined to as speedy a rise and fall. Possibly the observers speak wisely. Certainly the analogy they point out is close. But whatever else happens, whether the people's party soon collapses, whether the prohibition party joins then with it a new party, or whether neither of these parties attains success, this much seems bound to come to pass: one or both old parties will be disrupted; several now so called national issues will be relegated to their proper ranks, and the underlying principles of the people's movement will and must come into prominence as great national issues to be settled and settled right.

#### EXCHANGE.

We wonder if Solomon was looking over a great heap of exchanges when he exclaimed, "There is nothing new under the sun."—*Ex.*

Inter-fraternity base ball clubs have been formed at De Pauw from which the university nine will be selected. Best possible way of killing base ball.—*DePauw Ex.*

The contest number of *The Delphic* is a model of neatness and proficiency. Nearly four pages are devoted to an account of the convention, banquet and reception, contest, and markings of the judges. Then each oration is printed in full, and accompanied by a portrait of the orator. This edition has cost considerable money, and required much time to prepare it, but from its appearance we have no doubt that it has amply repaid its manager.