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THE DAILY BEE.

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 15.

CHANGE TO SECTIONALISM.

The very tide says a Northern journal, is charged with the elements of a general political revolution. This is unquestionably true. Rarely, if ever, have parties evinced a stronger disposition to fluctuate. The opinions prevalent a few years ago are cast aside as coolly and indifferently as a worn-out parapet. The principles which were considered as the very existence of a party, as giving it distinctive vitality and force, are disregarded without remorse or regret. Names still exist to some extent, but have lost their primitive signification. Democracy and Democrats are words on which the changes continue to be rung, but they have ceased to convey to the mind the ideas with which they were once associated.

It is indeed time for a political revolution, and if some substantial amount of patriotism and public zeal were left in the land, the revolution would be attended with radical reform. On all sides honest and observant men agree that the Government has never been more incapably administered; that never has there been less of ability and capacity in the public service; that never have more sordid and censurable motives controlled the whole subject of Federal patronage; that seldom have we been required to chronicle more of official dereliction, corruption and turpitude; that never has the prospect been more disheartening, and the downward inclination of political morals more obvious. It is conceded that unless this progressive deterioration be arrested, nothing can save us from sharing the fate of every community where public virtue and integrity were sapped and overthrown.

One might imagine that in such a crisis good men would rallying and cheerfully combine for the noble purpose of restoring the Government to its pristine purity, and of extirpating the evils which afflict us. It would apparently be no task of superhuman difficulty for either of the two permanent parties in the country, or indeed for both of them, to raise the standard of reform, and to place in nomination candidates whose past career would be a guarantee of their claim to the respect and confidence of the nation. But insuperable obstacles are encountered in the practical execution of what seems theoretically simple. Take for example the Democratic party. That prevents it from cutting loose from the unprincipled and reckless rulers who have brought it to the brink of ruin, and putting forth its time-honored principles under competent and honorable leaders? Nothing, save that the party is so completely demoralized by feuds and schisms as to render perfect harmony impossible, and so cankered by corruption as scarcely to number in its ranks any who could go before the people with an absolute and unimpeachable title. Of all others the Democracy are just now in the worst possible odor, inasmuch as having enjoyed long lease of power, they are held responsible for the malfeasances of the miscreatures which have fallen upon the country.

The inference, then, is natural that the opposition may accomplish what the Democracy are presumably unable to effect. There is no doubt that amongst the former are to be found quite a number of patriots and statesmen zealous of whose qualifications and character nothing could be alleged. No one dreams of impeaching the probity or capacity of CRITTENDEN, or CRAWFORD, or BELL, or WISTMOR, or THYER, or a dozen other members of the opposition. But how to concentrate popular opinion and action upon any one of them! There's the rub! For, if the Democracy are divided, disorganized and belligerent, the opposition are not exempt from identical commotions. The eternal slavery question distracts them, and threatens to prevent all hearty affiliation between the North and South. How can there be a cordial agreement between those whose cardinal principle is a constant assault on the institutions of nearly half the States, and those whose paramount interests are involved in the preservation and perpetuation of those very institutions? It is this which militates so strongly against every effort at union. No union is possible unless sectionalism is repudiated, and the North has not yet evinced the slightest disposition to sacrifice one jot of anti slavery sentiment for the sake of union.

These considerations induce the belief that while the very air is charged with the elements of a political revolution, whatever change of administration may occur will not be attended with that marked improvement which the term "revolution" presupposes. Let Democracy prevail, and the reign of the spoils will be continued with more than usual audacity, as the popular vote will have apparently sanctioned the infamous principles heretofore in vogue. Let Black Republicanism triumph, and a sectional issue will be formally inaugurated in the Government, leading sooner or later to disunion and possibly civil war. This is the present aspect of political affairs. We shall rejoice if the future proves our picture to have been overcolored and exaggerated.

BRADBURN & BOGGESS and Col. WOOD will give three grand exhibitions at the Lower Cotton Press on Friday and Saturday, April 15th and 16th—all for one price of admission. Among the attractions are DOCKERTY's sailing dogs, monkeys and goats, grand diorama views, &c., &c. The performances will commence at 7 P. M., each night. On Saturday, at 2 P. M. there will be a grand day performance for ladies and children.

DAXTON'S ABRIDGMENT OF THE DEBATES OF CONGRESS.—The tenth volume of this valuable political and historical publication has been received by the General Agent, Mr. SAMUEL COLMAN, and is ready for delivery to subscribers. A correct idea of this great work may be formed from the following notice which appeared in the *National Intelligencer*: "These volumes contain the most satisfactory political History of the United States, and the most biographic of our orators and great statesmen.

"The Debates of Congress have been recently for seventy years; fill 120 large volumes; cost $600, and are too voluminous for possession. They have been crystallized by Col. Benton, "the right man in the right place;" compressed without impairing their integrity, and an analytical index gives instant access to any subject or to any speaker.

"The arguments on both sides of all the great questions are fully stated, fresh as they were at the moment, "uttered by those who lived in those days." The great principles that underlie our Constitution, the study of which elevates the politician into the statesman; the history of the Constitution; the powers of the President, of Congress, of Supreme Court, of each State, of every voter; our relations with Foreign Nations, with the Territories, with the Indians; the various Party Platforms; Free Trade; Protection; Tariff; Slavery; Negro Citizenship; Finance; the Bank Question; Paper Currency; Appropriations for Public Buildings; National Improvement and Defence; and all the other important subjects which were successively debated in all the forms of eloquence, are, by Daxton's plan, of this incomparable, laid from the to the present, time, made available for the present generation. The reader is placed in affinity with the Titans who formed the Constitution, and made the laws; from Washington to Webster, and they receive new fire from their patriotism, knowledge from their statesmanship, and wisdom from their inspiration. The biographies of our great statesmen substantially form our National History. The best biography of a man is the record of what he said and did on great occasions when his powers were at the zenith. Such biographies also fill these volumes, at a tithe of the bulk and expense of labored personal histories of partial friends.

"Each volume contains about four years' of Debates, and sells for $5. It is a great fact that puts it within the reach of all who aspire to share in the Government, State or Federal, or who wish to understand the history and working of our National Institution.

DEFENSIVE PREPARATIONS OF ENGLAND.—*The Armitstong Gun—An Explosive Shell.*—A London letter to the New York *Commercial Advertiser* says:

The defensive preparations of England continue to be carried forward with vigor, but the Armstrong gun throws all calculations into perplexity. The fact that it has already been shown to be thoroughly efficient at a distance of between five and six miles, and that larger specimens are now being manufactured which are expected to possess a much more extensive range, seems to paralyze all reliance on old systems of fortifications, and to forbid, as waste of money, every further expenditure in such directions. Another invention, by an official in our dockyards, for a shell which explodes at the slightest contact, and is constructed to throw liquid fire over the rigging of vessels at extraordinary distances, is attracting also great attention, it seems, as if, in the case of a war with France, the channel would be no bar to operations, and that we shall come to the condition in which Dover and Calais may bombard each other at pleasure.

PERSONAL ADVENTURES SOMETIMES TRAVE "Burlight," the New York correspondent of the Boston *Journal*, under date of the 23d March, says:

Mr. ——, from Chicago, will call at No. —, Broadway, he will hear something to his advantage." This notice appeared in one of the daily papers, with the name and number. Soon the party addressed called. The party who has called was an officer of the law, who arrested the Westerner, for robbery and stealing a gold watch. The watch was found on his person, taken from him and sent back to the owner, whose name was [illegible] Thus the Westerner was [illegible] the officer, who had [illegible] the watch, was [illegible] the Westerner, who had [illegible] the watch,