

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

The discussions which have been going on for the last five weeks in several prominent journals respecting the dissolution of the Democratic party, and on which almost every political journal in the country has bestowed some notice, have collapsed, leaving, as their only valuable result, a pretty general declaration by the accredited organs of the Democracy that all propositions to disband the party or change its name are inadmissible. Even a year ago, when most of us were looking with favor and hope to the then approaching Cincinnati Convention, a proposition to dissolve the Democratic organization and abandon the Democratic name would have been scorned by the party; and the disastrous experience of last year does not leave Democrats more disposed, but less disposed, to relax the strictness of party ties.

Up to the meeting of the Cincinnati Convention, the World was perhaps more forward than any other Democratic journal in encouraging that movement. The explanation of our zeal on that occasion was very simple. The Cincinnati Convention was, in its inception, a free-trade movement. It assembled under a free-trade call. Its chief promoters were certain Republican journals that had become converts to free trade. Consequently, every vigorous free-trade paper in the country, and the World among the foremost, gave it their good wishes. It was the order by the author of a strong free-trade book published the preceding year, the author of that book having drafted the call for the convention. Its presiding officer was a pronounced free-trader. We favored and encouraged the movement because we credited the propositions of its originators, and believed its success was its very path. We indulged the delusive hope that the new free-trade accessions in the West would more than counterbalance the Pennsylvania influence which has hamstringed the Democratic party in every Presidential election, and prevented its boldly embracing free trade on its banners. Had these expectations been realized, and an aggressive free-trade platform, we should rather have carried the election or have so consolidated a formidable opposition on well-defined questions of principle as to have insured an easy victory in the next campaign.

We need not recite how these hopes were dashed to the ground; how a movement begun in the interest of free trade by recent converts and zealots outside the Democratic party, ended in nominating the most noted protectionists in the country; how thoroughly the free traders who had sided the convention were incensed and disgusted at this stultifying result; how sagaciously and how suddenly many of the shrewdest of them stood out before they could find themselves to countenance the Cincinnati nominations.

The indescribable fatality of the action at Cincinnati bore its natural fruits both in the inglorious defeat which followed, and in the abiding repugnance of the Democratic party to hazard any similar experiment. If the Cincinnati movement had been faithful to the free-trade professions with which it started, it would have regenerated the Democratic party. It ought to have been bold enough to assume the loss of Pennsylvania as one of the calculated results of the campaign, trusting to the new free-trade accessions in the West to overbalance the loss. The nomination of the chief apostle of protection did not help us at all in Pennsylvania, but it disgraced and demoralized the free traders, preventing any concert of action among them, and depriving the movement of its only principle of life and growth. If the Cincinnati Convention had stayed by its free-trade colors, the union between it and the Democracy would have been a union of principle honorable to both sides. Earnest agreement on this fundamental point would have made it easy for both sides to drop all that was dead to past controversies. Those who thought alike would have found it easy to get together. When free trade was decried, the chief band of principle which should have connected it with the Democracy party was sundered. By making free trade the cardinal issue the movement would have sloughed off the least energetic Democrats who deny the faith, and have gathered into the organization scores of thousands of new proselytes. The movement last year was wrecked by the abandonment at Cincinnati of the chief doctrines which that convention had been called to assert.

They were purblind politicians who failed to perceive, last year, the procreative vigor of the free-trade principle. Within the preceding two years it had won surprising conquests outside the Democratic party. The ablest and most enterprising Republican journals in the West had espoused it with enthusiastic, propagating zeal. A doctrine cannot be effected which makes hosts of converts in unexpected quarters. A bright light fell on that new-born attachment to free trade among Western Republicans, when they saw its leaders succumb at Cincinnati, and sacrifice their convictions on the altar of a fancied expediency. If the free traders who originated the convention had stood their ground, if they had held their colors aloft avowing to fall under them or bear them to victory, all that was sound and best in the Democratic party would easily have kept step to the free-trade music. Even if we had not elected the

free trade candidate, we should at least have consolidated the free traders into one compact phalanx, and have formed them into a homogeneous, united, disciplined, courageous party, with infinite possibilities of future usefulness. It would have been a party of great, generous, positive aims; not a mere party of negations. It would have had the great advantage of knowing precisely what it was aiming at, and of keeping public attention steadily fixed on one paramount object. It would have differed from a miscellaneous opposition to the spoils party as an army differs from a mob; or rather, as the apostles of a living faith differ from the hireling pulpiter drones "whose gospel is their maw."

We will frankly say that it seems to us a piece of no ordinary assurance for the same Republican journals that last year advocated the Cincinnati Convention as a free-trade demonstration to hold out new lures to the Democratic party. If they could move back the hands of the dial, and put us precisely where we stood one year ago, before the authors of the Cincinnati Convention had violated their free-trade pledges, we hardly know what concessions we should not be willing to make to bring all the free traders into one efficient, disciplined party. But, since they deceived us last year, how can they expect us to trust them again? We stand precisely where we stood then, only with a more inflexible determination to make free trade the paramount issue. We fellowship all genuine free traders; we scorn political association with any protectionist. Every citizen who is unequivocally for free trade is a good enough Democrat for us; no protectionist can be Democrat at all. The political philosophy of which free trade is one outgrowth includes all that is fundamental in Democratic policy. The underlying principle is, that private men, who bestow most of their attention on their private affairs, are the best judges of their own interests. Extend that principle, and it follows that each local community understands its local interests better than any central government can, which is the spinal States' rights doctrine. Free trade rests upon the assumption that men are capable of taking care of themselves without government tutelage. Belief in free trade is the crucial test of the acceptance of Democratic principles, the very essence of Democracy lying in the capacity of men to govern and take care of themselves. Free trade declares that men do not need a paternal government to direct them how to employ their capital. Democracy declares that men do not need a paternal government to overrule their free choice in matters of common interest. The capacity of men to take care of themselves better than anybody else can take care of them is the basis of Democracy and the basis of free trade, which are merely different applications of the same principle. Every intelligent free trader has necessarily accepted the fundamental tenets of Democracy. Hence we repeat, with added emphasis, that every vigorous free trader is a good enough Democrat, and that no protectionist can be anything more than a sham Democrat—a bastard and not a son. We are impatient to see the chaff brought out, and all the wheat brought together.

But, since the abortive experiment of last year, we do not expect to see this done by a coalition. We stake all our hopes on making the Democracy an out-and-out, thick and thin, aggressive (if you please, intolerant) free-trade party, subordinating all issues to this, and that by drawing to itself all citizens who have a true appreciation of this great principle. If we can emancipate trade, if we can emancipate industry, the party which achieves this great triumph has merely to pursue its ideas to their consequences to emancipate local communities from thralldom to central authority. The capacity for self-direction in private pursuits is, at bottom, the same as the capacity for self-government, which is the very thing the word Democracy designates.—New York World.

JOHN HAYNES, while on a bendir recently, made a mistake very natural to one in his condition. He imagined that he was indulging in copious libations of benzine, when, in fact, he was drinking linseed oil.

Shortly after, John felt a queer taste coming into his mouth. The first idea that occurred to him was that he was poisoned. A physician was sent for, and he applied a stomach pump.

"Is there any arsenic in it doctor?" inquired the patient. "No," replied the Esculapius; "it smells like a newly painted house."

"What!" screamed John. "It smells like a newly-painted house," repeated the doctor.

"Doctor," cried the now excited patient, "you don't mean to tell me that I've swallowed a house?"

A GENTLEMAN "unaccustomed to public speaking," becoming embarrassed, whispered to his Dublin friend, "Quick, quick, give—give me a word!" Upon which the other replied, "Faith, and I will, but just say what word you want."

Mrs. PARTINGTON has been reading the health officer's weekly report, and thinks "total" must be an awful malignant disease, since as many die of it as of all the rest put together.

If the worst of men were transported to Paradise, for only half an hour amongst the company of the great and good, he would come back converted.

MERCANTILE APPRAISEMENT

Table listing names and addresses of merchants and traders, such as J. H. Bickert, Simon Seltzer & Co., etc., under the heading 'Mercantile Appraisement'.

Table listing names and addresses of compounders of medicines, such as J. H. Bickert, Simon Seltzer & Co., etc.

Table listing names and addresses of brewers and distillers, such as J. H. Bickert, Simon Seltzer & Co., etc.

Table listing names and addresses of billiard and table makers, such as J. H. Bickert, Simon Seltzer & Co., etc.

Table listing names and addresses of U.S. Internal Revenue notices, such as J. H. Bickert, Simon Seltzer & Co., etc.

Table listing names and addresses of job printers, such as J. H. Bickert, Simon Seltzer & Co., etc.

Table listing names and addresses of various other trades, such as J. H. Bickert, Simon Seltzer & Co., etc.

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