

the subject grave consideration. The points presented by the *Herald* are:—

1. Less frequent elections would less frequently subject the country to the stagnation of the business interests which now occurs. The loss resulting from this, as estimated by Chauncey M. Depew, is \$500,000,000, or one-tenth of the estimated business of the country during the four months of the Presidential campaign. This suspension of industries is occasioned by the misgivings which take hold of men's minds in view of the uncertainty of the result of the election.

2. The present occurrence of elections is just frequent enough to foster a host of corrupt partisan politicians; they need never want for occupation.

3. A President for reasons of personal ambition and partisan interest is at present restrained from inaugurating in the latter part, say one or two years, of his term any new policy which his experience may have taught or dictated to him, because he or his party must in the next election stand responsible in the eyes of the people for a policy, perhaps good in itself, yet looked upon unfavorably because not yet completely operative or fully understood. Thus our President is left free and unbiased to act only during two or three years, which period ought to be valuable as experience for the administration to follow.

The second and third points must have presented themselves to the framers of the constitution; the first, perhaps, did not, since they can hardly be imagined to have calculated for industry five-hundred-fold greater than it then was, and almost proportionately excelling in organization. In answer to this first point, however, it may be seriously said that the disturbance in business does not work permanent harm. Do not industries again spring forward with renewed vigor? It appears to us that this temporary check has the same salutary result which accrues to pasture when the grazer burns his meadows in the spring time.

Moreover, if the business interests of the country are so sensitive they may all the more safely be used for the determination or observation of our condition, and why not appeal to these interests often for this purpose; there will be the less chance to go far wrong. In answer to the second objection it may be said as suggested by the *Herald*, that it is more than counterbalanced by the popular interest in politics and government which is now kept alive. Further, local elections furnish the most of the political vultures' prey at any rate. As an argument against the third objection, it is replied that while a longer term would give an administration a better chance and more encouragement to perfect salutary measures, yet it would also give to it a chance to do so more entirely at its own pleasure, and by taking away from the people the opportunity of rebuking measures would introduce a new source of disturbance, perhaps an element of danger. Moreover, as suggested by the *Herald*, unless the veto power was modified the President could for a long time obstruct desired or needed legislation. Nor would a President, notwithstanding a lengthened term cease to cater during the later years of such term for the reelection of his party's candidate, though he himself were forbidden a second term. This question is well worthy consideration, but it has two sides.

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WHILE our extensive improvements are going on, the interest in behalf of the student which is usually shown, seems to be somewhat lessened. The library, which should be open to students for at least one-half the day, from necessity or *otherwise* is kept closed except for two short periods during the day. Thus books other than text-books are left to sleep undisturbed. They cannot benefit the student without his having access to them. This may all be remedied when we once settle down to enjoy our improvements. It is the earnest hope of the students that it will be remedied.