

REPUBLICANISM.

A Correspondent Gives Numerous Examples of the Rotteness, Jobbery, and Thefts of the Republican Party.

[From the Indianapolis Sentinel.]

The leader of the Republican party evidently think it the thing to "assume a virtue" if they have it not. The Indianapolis Journal joins in the chorus of the outcry that President Cleveland has cracked the jails and penitentiaries to find men to fill the appointive offices of the Government. Every person receives an appointment under the administration is at once assailed as a corruptionist in politics or as a criminal. No correction of the lie ever is given in place in their partisan columns. An investigation of the official conduct of Republican office-holders proposed, the editors of Republican organs fly into a rage, as if a Republican could do no wrong. They are too pure to have their official records laid open to the world. These party organs have even been so shameless as to attack Democratic soldiers whose wounds have resulted in almost total disability for drawing a pension. After reading their editorial screeds one would come to the conclusion that a Democrat had no rights in this country worthy of respect.

Let the story of the corruption, and fraud, and public robbery of the Republican party be told. The remainder should cause its leaders to blush with shame—if they are capable of such an emotion—and to silence the blatant and loud-mouthed party editors.

Nearly seventy-five per cent. of the customs revenue is collected at the New York Custom House. As a vast army was employed there, it was a powerful political machine to control elections in that State. That machine has its influence upon the whole country, and was always felt in a Presidential campaign. So scandalous had its management become under Republican administration that an investigating committee was appointed to examine into its conduct. From a statement furnished by General Arthur, then Collector of the Port, and President Cleveland's immediate predecessor in the White House, it is shown that the cost of collecting the revenues was more than four times as great as in Germany, nearly five times as great as in Great Britain, and more than three times as great as in France, the percentage of cost being in the United States 1.33.

The investigation showed, and it was so reported by the committee, that inebriety and bribe-taking by men employed in the custom-house was not uncommon, and Surveyor Sharpe declared that the law against bribery was a "dead letter." It was also shown that the loss in collection was from \$36,000,000 to \$70,000,000 annually. Mr. Isaac D. Block, Chief Clerk of the Mint, testified before the Commission that complaints had been made against two clerks, and that instead of having been dismissed and published, they were transferred to another department with increase of pay. Such were the methods adopted for the punishment of bribe-takers in Government employ.

Gen. Sharpe, Surveyor of the Port, testified as follows: "I had a letter within the last two weeks from a gentleman holding a high official position, in regard to an officer whom he knew to have been dropped three times from the service for cause. He had also been to see me for him and admitted that he had been engaged in defrauding the revenue, and yet he writes me requesting his appointment."

A high Republican office-holder indorsing a man for appointment in the Custom House whom he knew to be a thief! Wonderful, is it not? Yet this is the sworn statement of Gen. Sharpe, the Republican Surveyor, and Gen. Grant's brother-in-law. Any man who would agree to contribute funds for election purposes could easily secure a place in the Republican partisan machine officially called the New York Custom House.

In a letter on the violations of law by the acceptance of bribes and complicity in frauds, Naval Officer Cornell ingeniously said: "The clerks are but human, and whenever there is a co-incidence of temptation, frailty and opportunity, there can be but one result." How touchingly the Republican Naval Officer extenuates the shortcomings of the boys."

If we recall the whisky ring, the "high official leaders" of which escaped punishment by the removal of honest attorneys for the Government and putting in their places the supply tools of the corruptionists; the band of public plunderers that fattened in Washington for years upon jobs; the fact that the Postmaster at Galveston was removed to make room for a man who had been expelled from the House of Representatives for fraud; that Boss Shepard, branded as a public swindler, was appointed Commissioner of the District of Columbia; that honest and capable men like Bristow were driven from the Cabinet because they refused to sanction the appointment of men proved to have been corrupt, and we marvel that such papers as the Indianapolis Journal, which indorsed all these things, has the effrontery to shriek so loudly about the moral unfitness of the appointees of the present administration. These things attracted the attention of the old world, and were condemned by the ablest and purest periodicals of Europe.

The testimony of a Republican Senator, who also had been a member of a Republican Cabinet, ought to be conclusive. In the impeachment of Gen.

Belknap as Secretary of War Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, said:

I have seen five Judges of a high court of the United States driven from office by threats of impeachment for corruption and maladministration. I have seen the taunt from friendliest lips that the U. S. Senate had proved heretics in the East to take part with the educated world in generous competition in the arts of life, the only product in which she surpassed all others beyond question was her corruption. I have seen in the State in the Union foremost in power and wealth four Judges of her courts impeached for corruption. I have seen the Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs in the House rise in his place and demand the expulsion of four of his associates for making sales of their official privilege of selecting the youths to be educated at our great military schools.

Referring to the Credit Mobilier swindle, in which so many virtuous and honest Republicans were entrapped (?)—poor, innocent souls!—Senator Hoar said:

When the greatest railroad of the world, binding together this continent and uniting the two seas which wash our shores, was finished, I have seen our national triumph and exultation turned to bitterness and shame by the unanimous reports of three committees of Congress—two in the House and one here—that every step of that mighty enterprise had been taken in fraud. I have heard in the highest places the shameless doctrine avowed by men long in public life, that the true way in which power should be exercised in the State is to bribe people with the offices created for their service; and that the true end for which it should be used when gained is the promotion of selfish ambition and the gratification of personal revenge. I have heard that suspicion haunts the footsteps of the trusted companions of the President.

I have not gone outside the record in presenting the summary of facts here-with. If there be any who can consistently palliate, excuse, or condone the rotteness, the jobbery, the thefts, and the speculations of the Republican party when in the zenith of its power, they surely ought not to be shocked by anything the present administration has done. The corruption and deviltry of Republican rule could not be reproduced, as it never has been equaled.

RAYBURN.

LAFAYETTE, Ind.

VIRGINIA COLORED MEN.

They Withdraw from the G. O. P., and Praise the New Administration.

The following address was adopted at the recent State convention of the colored men of Virginia, held at Lynchburg:

WHEREAS, We, the colored people of

Virginia, believing as we do, the time

has come for us to call a halt in the un-

qualified support we have given the

Republican party, do here in conven-

tion assembled solemnly declare our-

selves politically independent in all

matters which pertain to us as citizens

and voters of this commonwealth. We

have for twenty-five years adhered to

our former political associates with un-

paralleled fidelity, because in those

dark days of reconstruction the Repub-

lican party proved that it was the only

party to which the colored man of the

South could consistently ally himself.

To that end colored voters nobly re-

sponded, and raised to place and power

men who grew wealthy while adminis-

tering the laws of the United States

Government in the Southern States.

We feel ever grateful for what

has been done, but now the

time has come for us to think, act, vote,

and speak for ourselves, and especially

so since the Republicans have practi-

cally abandoned us in former cam-

paigns, and in all matters where the

negro ought to have had recognition in

proportion to voting strength and in-

telligence. We know, too, that many of

our race have been murdered in the

Southern States, but the causes which

led to these sad occurrences which have

spilled our blood and created the bitter

race antagonism which now retards our

progress and makes it difficult for us to

live in the land of our birth are largely

traceable to mismanagement by Federal

office-holders in our section. These

foregoing reasons lead us to adopt such

methods and so conduct ourselves as to

make friends of those whose interests

are identical in every way with our own.

We, therefore, appeal to the colored

people of our native State to look

well to the altered conditions

of affairs, and in the future

make such political alliances as will

advance our interests educationally,

financially and politically. We feel

sure that there is throughout the broad

limits of the commonwealth a general

disposition on the part of the white

people to accord us all our rights be-

fore the law, and to meet us heartily in

every advance we make for the upholding

of our people. It behoves us then to

so use our ballots that we may draw

out all discordant elements in Virginia,

whether they be headed by natives or

aliens of the State. We also condemn

the raising of the race issue by any

class of men who essay to lead the

masses, because it can do nothing but

prove detrimental to our cause and our

interests. We, therefore, ask the

hearty co-operation of our people in

Virginia to the success of our move-

ment. We have cause to be thankful

for the liberality of the present national

administration to our people in the

South. We also believe our relations

to the State debt are such as to justify

us in hoping that Virginia will be re-

lieved from financial embarrassment by

aid from the Federal Government,

which will enable her to provide for all

the material interests of her citizens,

and bring about that universal good

feeling which ought to exist between

the two races.

The New York Mugwumps.

The Democratic papers in New York unite in the assurance that there is nothing surprising in the support by the "Mugwumps" of that State of the Republican nominees for State officers. What is surprising is that such an assurance should be thought necessary. It has been the persistent claim of the "Mugwumps" that their support of Cleveland was not opposition to Republicanism but to Blaine. They have insisted steadfastly that they were as

good Republicans as ever in respect to any and all party issues. It was a moral certainty, therefore, that at the first opportunity they would resume their relations with the Republican party; and with a candidate to whom no Republican can fairly take exception it would have been very surprising if they had not renewed their allegiance. If they were to do otherwise they would throw a doubt upon the honesty and good faith of the professions they made in cutting loose from Blaine.

The Iowa Republicans.

The Republican platform in Iowa is a most remarkable document. The State has a population of 1,750,000, an assessed valuation of \$298,000,000, farms valued at \$567,000,000, with an annual farm production of \$136,000,000; over 7,000 manufacturing establishments, with a capital of \$34,000,000 and upward, a product of \$71,000,000, and an annual outlay of \$10,000,000 for wages; an immense product of bituminous coal, and some lead. Yet with all this variety and magnitude of State interests there is scarcely anything, according to the Republican Convention, that is of any importance but the appointment of a State Board of Arbitration for the adjustment and settlement of disputes between labor and capital, including the question of screening coal, and other peculiar mining interests of the State.

Judging by its platform, the issues which the party regards as of burning and overshadowing importance in Iowa are those "growing out of the war for the Union." They invite people to vote for the Republican candidate because of "the adhesion of the Democratic party to the doctrine of State's rights, as evidenced by the character of the diplomatic appointments made by Cleveland;" because it is important that there should be "such modification of the pension laws as shall secure equal treatment to all soldiers entitled to pensions;" because "the old-world theory of classes is abhorrent to the American mind;" because we need "closer commercial intercourse with all nations;" and "the increase of American shipping by all practical means."

What bearing the election or defeat of a Republican candidate for Governor in Iowa can have on these questions or results the platform does not indicate. It would puzzle its framer very much to show that a Republican Governor, if elected, is likely to affect "the character of the diplomatic appointments made by Cleveland;" or that a Republican Legislature will modify the pension laws or abrogate the old-world theory of classes.

They are not likely, however, to puzzle themselves with the attempt to make any such showing. The platform was not framed with any such idea. It was framed simply and solely "as it shows in every instance and every line to arouse and inflame the partisan feeling and rekindle, if possible, the sectional animosity and bitterness of the war time. Like the platform of the Ohio Republicans, it is an appeal to passion and not to reason.

In every intelligent aspect, such a platform is a mistake. It is so from the purely partisan point of view. The ashes of the rebellion have been dead and cold too long for any hope of revival even in Iowa. The attempt to revive them is a lamentable confession of inability to come before the people with any real claim to their confidence and support. With the dying message of Grant still ringing in their ears the people of Iowa cannot be excited into a wordy renewal of the conflict so long ago fought out and finished. Ten years ago such a platform might have been acceptable to tolerably rabid partisans. To-day it is an anachronism. *Detroit Free Press.*

Monopolies Are Foes of the People.

The Democracy has always been the protector, and the only protector of the people against monopolies and all such foes, so constant and insidious.

The Republicans, conspicuous for so much that is bad, are marked throughout their career for fostering monopolies of every species—of railroads, by immense grants of the people's land and money; of herders, by commissary at immense seizures by them of the people's land; of manufacturers, by exorbitant tariff for their special benefit; of Government ship-building, by giving all contracts thereto to John Roach, etc.

The Democracy has been reinstated in power but a few months, and yet see how rapidly progresses the removal of these intolerable grievances so long heaped upon the people by the Republicans. Throttle them all the Democrats must and will.

Such resolute bearing of audacious and gigantic monopolists as recently exemplified by our Democratic President would be worthy of Old Hickory himself. It is a splendid exhibition of courageous fidelity to the people, and will live in history side by side with that which made Old Hickory so famous for moral as well as military courage.

If the people should derive no other benefit from Democratic administration than this throttling of Republican monopolies, it would be enough; would justify their confidence in restoring Democratic ascendancy, and their determination to maintain it. But this benefit is only the initial of good to be wrought by the Democracy. *Indianapolis Sentinel.*

RAILROAD HORROR.

Collision Between Southern and Western Trains Near Jersey City.

Six People Instantly Killed and a Large Number Seriously Wounded.

[Jersey City (N. J.) dispatch.]

When the fast express on the Pennsylvania Railroad, leaving Jersey City at 8:15 to-night, rounded the curve near the Meadow coal bridge, about five miles out, the engineer saw through the thick fog the outlines of a car on the track only a few hundred feet ahead. The express was running at the rate of forty-five miles an hour. The engineer applied the air-brakes as quickly as he could and whistled the danger signal, but his attempt was in vain. The engine struck the car with terrific force, telescoping it and throwing the fragments in every direction.

The panting engine had scarcely stopped when the train bound east, leaving Newark on the Lehigh Valley Road at 8:10, dashed into the forward end of the immigrant. Engineer Owen Hall, peering through the fog, saw the wreck. He did everything in his power to stop his train on its death-bearing course, but it was too late. With an awful crash the Newark train rushed upon the overturned car and was thrown down the embankment. Over and over rolled the cars of human freight, and upon the night air rose the horrible shrieks of the dying. Dark outlines of the train lying wrecked