

houses and 15,000 lives were destroyed in the valley of the Euphrates. In 1856 in China 200,000 lives were lost. In 1871 and 1872 Stanley reported tremendous floods in Central Africa. The Bengal flood of 1876 is still remembered, in which 185,000 lives were lost. The floods in 1878 along the Nile, in 1879 in Hungary and Spain, and in China in 1881 are still fresh in the memories of most newspaper readers.

As the century grows in grace, the floods seem to grow more destructive. In 1883 the terrible Pennsylvania floods occurred. India had a visitation that same year. Every year since then this country is visited with most destructive floods. It is only a few years since 1,000,000 persons perished, and 2,000,000 were rendered homeless in China from that cause.

### REVIEW OF THE CONTEST.

THE preliminary fight for recognition by the National Democratic party, between the Democrats and Tuscarroras of Utah was of great interest. The "Liberals" counted securely on seating their delegates because Ferry one of their number was the national committeeman for Utah. It was scarcely doubted by most people acquainted with the case that Ferry would receive the tickets and hand them to Powers and Kiesel, leaving the straight Democrats to fight for the seats on the outside.

It has always been the custom to give the tickets to the national committeeman for each State and it was thought to be impossible to change the rule. However, a protest was prepared and presented to the national committee endorsed by several influential Democrats, including Hon. Chauncey F. Black, Lawrence Gardner and W. D. Bynum. Straight Democrats who had friends and acquaintances on the national committee laid siege to them and briefly explained the facts in the case which only needed examination to show their truth and force. The result was that Ferry was left out in the cold and the delegates' tickets and badges were handed to Henderson and Caine. This unexampled victory gave courage for further exertion. The hearing before the sub-committee on credentials, at the Palmer House, demonstrated the fact that conditions have changed not only in Utah but in the East. O. W. Powers made a characteristic speech, filled with ancient and musty anti-"Mormon" charges, which were vociferously applauded by the crowd of Tuscs, acting as claquers. The committee ordered the noise stopped and declared the room and lobbies should be cleared if it was continued. Powers put much force and feeling into his harangue, and declared that unless his party, which he claimed numbered 4700 voters, was recognized, there could be no Democratic party in Utah. He declaimed, threatened, pleaded and denied that any Republican money had been donated for the Tuscs. When asked by O'Donnell of Colorado whether he was a Liberal he answered yes. Then said O'Donnell "you represent the Liberal party" Powers replied "The Democratic party" but his confusion was apparent. He found the old venomous anti-Mormon darts were unavailing and only provoked derision.

Judge Henderson offered a striking contrast. His earnest, yet quiet and gentlemanly manner, his plain facts and clear but logical arguments and conclusive deductions went straight home to the minds of his hearers. He made it evident that he represented the genuine Democratic party of Utah and the Mormons had done everything that had been demanded of them on political grounds and nothing less could be honorably done but recognize them. He showed that admitting all the facts and figures put forth by Powers, still he represented a party of bolters, and they could not be recognized as Democrats. His speech made a deep impression.

Hon. W. D. Bynum of Indiana followed in a short argument, right to the point, as to the Democrats having the regular party organization. He spoke of his visit to Utah and testified to the complete and admirable club organizations in Utah not excelled in the country. He confirmed all that Judge Henderson had explained.

Ex-Governor West was the next speaker. With force and emphasis he put the straight Democratic claims forward in such shape that the Tuscarroras ground their teeth and looked savage but despondent.

Powers attempted to reply but his effort was but a repetition of his former story and an attempt to show he was a good Democrat and that his opponents were the Mormon party. F. J. Kiesel then took up the lugubrious anti-Mormon refrain, talked about the Church and its influence in politics and the terrible consequences of delivering the Territory over to it. Boasted of his long residence and sufferings (?) in Utah and the non-sense of men coming into the Territory and eating "Mormon" strawberries and cream to learn all about the "Mormons." He was rapped down by the chairman's hammer. Tarpey followed, then Edwards of the *Tribune*, who had been very officious and impudent. They simply made a noise; they simply said nothing in a loud voice.

While this was going on the convention, which met at 11 o'clock, was waiting for the report of the credentials committee. The sub-committee cleared the room. They were out in two minutes. They said nothing, but the "Liberals" read defeat in their faces and declared the thing had been "fixed beforehand." The sub-committee were unanimous for Henderson and Caine. The full committee adopted the report unanimously. When they reported at noon to the Convention it was unanimously adopted, and so the contest was ended.

### A. E. STEVENSON.

THE candidate for Vice-President on the Democratic ticket is not a man nationally known in the sense that Gray, Boies, Palmer and Campbell of Ohio are.

A. E. Stevenson is a native of Kentucky, where he was born in 1835. He was admitted to the bar in Bloomington, Ill. shortly before the opening of the war. Though a practising lawyer by profession he has large interests in the coal fields of Illinois, and devotes a good deal of time to the development

of this industry. He has been in public life ever since he was a young man. He served as State's attorney in his judicial circuit in Illinois from 1864 to 1868. He was in Congress for two terms, and was defeated for two other terms. Mr. Stevenson was Cleveland's first assistant postmaster-general. He was mentioned as the candidate for Governor of Illinois a month ago, but the counsels of party chieftains prevailed, and he was held in reserve for the nomination for Vice-President.

### A RETROSPECTION AND A MORAL.

LAST Saturday was the seventy-seventh anniversary of one of the greatest and most desperate and consequential battles of modern times; it involved not only victory or defeat for the participants, but the future arrangement and welfare of all Europe. It resulted in the complete downfall of the ambitious monarch who precipitated it, and his enforced seclusion from mankind during the rest of his life.

We can occasionally look back to that momentous struggle and wonder what would be the social and political features of Europe had the result of the battle been different to what it was. Napoleon's plan was to push Wellington into the sea on the west, then turning to have given Blucher such a bloody welcome as he had previously received at the same hands and sent him home with a decimated force and a broken heart. Such was the design, and what followed would have been ordered, or at least approved of, by was "man of destiny" himself; but it the not thus to be and Napoleon went down to rise no more.

In his notes Victor Hugo says that when in Brussels he refused to visit the battle field of Waterloo, because it represented not only the triumph of Europe over France, but the "complete, absolute, startling, incontestable and final sovereign triumph of mediocrity over genius." The gifted Frenchman, like most of his countrymen, could see nothing but genius in Napoleon's unbridled ambition and stolid indifference to human sacrifice, and if, as alleged, all Europe combined against France, it was because, through Napoleon, France had arrayed itself against all Europe. The instinct of self-preservation manifests itself as distinctly in the case of nations, sometimes, as in that of individuals; and some day, perhaps, those who count so much upon the achievements of man and give praise only to those who have been manifest and conspicuous in the world's affairs, will learn that there is a Providence over all and that nations will not be dismembered or destroyed except as has been decreed.

### THE COMING STRUGGLE.

THE agony is over at Chicago. Both the great parties can now settle down to an active campaign work. The contest on the 8th of November next will be a determined political battle. It is true there are two parties yet to hear from. The Prohibitionists will assemble in convention at Cincinnati on