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BETWEEN TWO STOOLS.

It is the misfortune—or shall we say the fate?—of almost every senator of prominence to be mentioned, at some time or another, as a likely candidate for the Presidency. In fact, while most of the precedents run the other way, there is a common opinion that at least in the case of certain states where presidential timber is supposed best to grow, the upper house of Congress is but a stepping-stone to the White House. If this has not been so much the case with favorite sons of Southern states, it is only because the political party now in control of the government has not felt that it would in either good policy or good sense to take as standard-bearer a statesman from the further side of Mason and Dixon's line, and whose training if not sympathies would naturally be in accordance with those of a section only lately in rebellion.

Within a few years, however, Democratic eyes have frequently peered, not furtively but loudly, across the ecclesiastical line above referred to in search of an available man to lead the cohorts of tariff reform; and objection to giving the South at least the second place on the national ticket has well-nigh vanished under the patriotic cry that there is no longer a North or a South, but a united country, whose worthiest men, regardless of rebellious record or residence, are deserving of their fellow-citizens' favor. We state only a well-known truth when we give the name of John Griffin Carlisle, of Kentucky, ex-representative in Congress, ex-Speaker of the House, ex-senator of the United States, and now secretary of the treasury, as the one most frequently and most confidently mentioned in this connection. He had shown himself—what all members of Congress have not—a good deal of a statesman—broad, sagacious and of excellent administrative ability. A year ago, and even less, the late horse him by the mouth and a string leaning toward him on the part of the West gave him a prominence as a candidate for 1896 that four years of waiting, fatal as that delay usually is to premature boomlets, would hardly have diminished.

But within a twelvemonth how great has been the change! As secretary of the treasury the blue grass statesman has contrived to estrange almost every element that sunshine rendered him political adoration. In order to satisfy his chief, he began by retreating precipitately from the high and sound position he had formerly held as to the use and province of silver as money. The effect of this abandonment was not the winning of absolute confidence from those who held to the single gold standard—they regarded him as too recent a convert, too uncertain a champion, to exact their unqualified admiration. On the other hand, the silver men grew indignant over what they call his treachery. In effect, he has burned his bridges behind him before seeing his way clear to safety in opposition territory, much less having achieved it. Even his late speech at the chamber of commerce banquet in New York, radical as it was on the great money question, has not sufficed to remove the suspicion with which his hearers and their class regard him. They think he spoke with mental reservation; they are not yet sure that he may not under the influence of the silver wilderness, that he may not have certain objectionable ideas in his head, that his gold proclivities may not be only temporary. Nevertheless, no man yet, dead from compromise in politics, in the face of the world, and because that wretch it is not time heard so much to be sought to commend President to administration, it now looks as though he would not receive such a complimentary vote.

No man ever had a more difficult political path to tread, and none is more deserving of a charitable review of his acts. His money record is questionable, but his money is unpaid. Both in money and good faith. It is impossible to say that he never to have acted wrong, and perhaps a greater one. He had seen fit to regard as a phenomenal read it certainly pleased and money payment in the Senate, than he now sees fit to remove to the treasury desk, and excepting the impatient bite of silver in distrust. It all goes to show that there is a great deal of selfishness and combination in our boasted political system, and that while gilded and partially disguise more frequently and the Wolcotts best as President, the success of really strong men comes from the compromise of their round pegs to reaching the point where they have no levers to use.

A FEATURE OF ATHLETICS.

Apropos of the great game of football played a few days ago between Harvard and Yale students, in whose which "the Harvard came from New York and Eleven thousand from Boston," as we remember the figures, we are reminded of another game which was played at Adrian, Michigan, something over a week ago. One of the most interesting pieces of the office is described by an exchange paper. "A Toledo player, Cotter," says the report, "had the ball, and dodged to save it. Three Toledo boys dropped to save him, and in an instant the Adrian team was upon them. When the struggle was over, Cotter remained motionless upon the ground. The referee cried, 'Foul!' but it was too discovered that the young man's neck was dislocated. Upon examination it was found that his body was paralyzed from his chest down, and his spinal column was injured, so that he will never walking without having recovered consciousness."

It does not appear that the Yale and Harvard teams included this popular feature in their exhibition, and that is probably the reason the twenty-five thousand who traveled two or three hundred miles and stood several long hours in a raw wind to witness the performance, went home more or less disappointed. One can well understand how their feelings must have been outraged, when it is known that no less than four of the "little geniuses" over the seven began have succeeded in sending one of their men home to his fond parents in a coffin, while this, the greatest game of all, is not treat the crowd with so much as a broken leg!

Athletic sports in colleges may be the proper thing, but it is a great pity that organizations be boys without being brutes. Spanish bull fights have been a horror to civilization since the first awakening from the dark ages, but we question if any recent season of the bull-killing sport will show a record of human slaughter with a higher average than this season's football exhibit. We have a moral in mind for this connection, but will withhold it for our first funeral sermon on the score of the football heads.

PACIFIC CABLE PROJECT.

Now that the French cable from Australia to New Caledonia has been completed and is in successful operation, its projectors contemplate extending it to the United States by way of Samoa and the Sandwich Islands. The New Caledonia line is under French control, but the new project is entirely distinct from it so far as the national element is concerned, and the question now being discussed is whether it shall be controlled by America or Great Britain.

From Honolulu there are two routes under consideration, one being to Vancouver, B. C., and the other to San Francisco. The latter route is the longer and more expensive, but there is in its favor the prospect of slightly heavier business than would come over the northern route. The cost of laying the line to the Golden Gate would reach nearly nine millions of dollars, while the other route could be followed for nearly a million less.

The matter of cost is, however, only a secondary consideration. The most important issue is whether the United States or the British government shall control the cable. If the line comes to San Francisco, it will be under the direction of our government. Considerations of expense being equal, the projectors of the line have signified their determination to lay the southern route. If the excess of about over the amount necessary to built to Vancouver, and a proportion of the remainder, were taken by American capitalists, or if the United States were to offer a subsidy of the difference between the two routes and a certain portion of the stock to be subscribed for in America, the line would not go to British condition as this can obtain.

But the English are alive to the advantages of having the cable only over a route that is exclusively British throughout, and would place the Hawaiian and Samoan groups virtually within their grasp. Sandwich Floating is the chief projector of the enterprise, and his letter on the subject has been forwarded to the premiers of the British Australasian colonies by Sir Henry Blake, with a commendatory [illegible] to the same, in which he urges the government to send a representative and share the matter which is of great interest to Great Britain. Sir Henry Blake joins with Sandwich in urging the British government to take the matter in hand, and to secure the Hawaiian Islands. It would have the support of Australia, New Zealand and Canada, as a public undertaking. Mr. Bennett Burleigh is authorized by the London Times and other influential British journals to say that the Australasians are to British supremacy.

The question is not that the United States might properly give over a business to The press details of the office is made any and be just what is most desirable, but there is no doubt there could be justified and arranged to suit the occasion. With cable communication effected between the Hawaiian Islands and America, the line should be under the control of the United States. It would be bad policy on the part of this government to allow it to be otherwise if it could be secured with reasonable diligence. The Pacific cable is a thing of the not far distant future, and our government should arrange matters in some way to have the end of the line within its borders and at its disposal.

WORKING THE INCOME TAX.

Thomas G. Shearman never tires of exhorts of the New York World which succeeded in proving the honesty and excellence of an income tax for the purpose of revenue, and claims by evening beyond parodoxical that all expectations to that date, in Europe or America, have turned out to be a precision on fraud and perjury on the one hand and a tax upon honesty on the other. The opponents of an income tax are not as a rule to be found among men who have the large incomes. In the minds of the rich and would prefer them to be the first sufferers. The fact is that between a direct property tax and a tax upon net profits, the interest of the moneyed man with a disposition to evade taxation lies with the latter method. When fraud is the game, it is neither the entire profits of the individual nor corporation to the country with a little Sullivan bookkeeping is a trifle matter to an expert in that business. But when it comes to levying the tax upon assessment purposes it is not so easily accomplished.

The *Herald* has struggled hard and faithfully with its pet tax theory. It wants to try and for nothing to some of its exponents. It it has devoted a small portion of those efforts upon an investigation to the much more logical and apparently practicable acreage tax, it might be already enjoying a reward for its pains. To gloat musingly over an exploded whim, with a really sensible idea covering the same ground within call, seems a great waste of opportunities.

AS BAD AS THE OTHER.

An organization which has for its title "The Society of Liberty and Loyalty" has been formed in Colorado, and it is announced that the membership already reaches 3000, composed of men and women. The society is opposed to the anti-Roman Catholic institution known as the Americans or American Protective Association. Its declaration of principles is as follows:

"We believe that all persons should be protected in their right to worship God after the dictates of their own conscience, so long as their worship is not in the nature of a violation of the Constitution and laws of the land.

"We believe that no person should be proscribed in either public or private life on account of religious belief or sectarian affiliation.

"We believe that any persons or set of persons who do attempt to proscribe others on account of their religious belief or sectarian affiliations are traitors to the laws of the country and should be treated as such.

"We believe that the American people should rule and govern their country in accordance with the principles and precedents of the American Constitution and American laws, and not after the rules of tumults and riots.

"We are opposed to any union of church and state and any sectarian interference with our public schools.

The foregoing reads very prettily; it is quite patriotic in its expressions. In fact it breathes the sentiment so strongly that it reminds men like the wolf's protestations of friendship for the lamb, particularly when that which follows this declaration is taken into full consideration. Each member of the L. and L. society is required to take an oath, not prescribed by the law of the land, in which he swears to "uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States;" to not "discriminate against or in favor of any person on account of religious belief or church affiliation;" to "oppose any attempt at union between church and state;" not to actively participate in politics "and endeavor to secure the nomination of no person who has obligated himself to discriminate against or in favor of any person in public or private life on account of the religious belief" of such person. The oath further says:

"I will do all in my power to further the interests of this order and of the L. and L. society, and will never do anything to injure the society or any member thereof, or any person or persons who have taken the obligation of the American Protective Association, or any other secret society, or any person who have taken the obligation of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan