

printing office, and subsequently became the editor of a country newspaper. In such a school, where the innate talents of men have so often been practically developed and trained in channels of politics, the mind of young Cameron was matured, his first affiliation being with the John C. Calhoun or "nullification" wing of the Democratic party.

He was a great admirer of that distinguished Southerner, and became so active a partisan in his behalf that the Pennsylvania's loyalty, just before the Southern movement began to crystalize, was suspected. He did not, however, permit his political proclivities or his attachment to any cause to lead him out of the Union, and to make his position unmistakable and certain, he abandoned Democracy altogether and a few years later became President Lincoln's Secretary of War and "right-hand man." He soon forsook the Cabinet, however, to accept of the post of minister to Russia, where it is claimed by his friends his good work was visible in the friendly attitude of that government to the United States during the war of the rebellion, albeit his stay at St. Petersburg was only a few months. He had previously served one term in the United States Senate as a Democrat, and one as a member of the "People's party," the inception of party Republicanism; and on the first opportunity, which occurred in 1866, he was sent back to the Senate as a Republican. Serving a full term, he was re-elected in 1873, but resigned in favor of his son Don, who now holds the seat. His senatorial life comprised eighteen years and his public career was equal to the full term of life allotted to man—seventy years. An unusual and conspicuous record is that of Simon Cameron.

#### OHIO REPUBLICANS.

THE Republicans of Ohio, in State convention assembled, recently re-nominated Governor Foraker for a third term with practically no opposition. The platform is mainly a reiteration of that of the party in last year's Presidential campaign, so far as it deals with national issues, and needs no further mention than this to be fully understood.

The Governor, on accepting the nomination, said it was for the Governorship alone, meaning thereby, of course, that he was not to be considered as having the Presidential bee in his bonnet. This kind of

thing in American politics is quite familiar, and the people know exactly how much consequence to attach to it. The number of Governors who would not take the Presidency if they could get it, or who would not "pull" for it if they thought it worth while, is exceeding small and grows no less year after year.

Governor Foraker belongs to the ultra wing of the Republican party. In public affairs, that organization is his chief if not his only love. He is for everything that is Republican and for nothing that is anything else. From this, and the platform adopted, it will be perceived that the trench dividing the national forces is as wide and deep as it ever was, with a prospect of this condition remaining till 1892 at least.

#### GERMANY VS. SWITZERLAND.

A TELEGRAM of recent date was to the effect that the attack begun by Bismarck upon the little republic of Switzerland has not abated, the Prince's organ, the *North German Gazette*, having returned to the assault in which its master was formerly repulsed with a decided loss to his prestige.

The cause of all this disturbance is the alleged harboring by Switzerland of outcasts, socialists and anarchists from Germany and the encouragement of such people by mild dealing or none at all, the charge being made by Germany, of course. It had previously called the attention of its diminutive neighbor to the fact, and had tendered sufficient military police to aid in arresting or driving them out. This offer was respectfully declined, the declination being accompanied by a mild suggestion to the effect that Switzerland could attend to her own border and her own affairs generally, and by a request that the Iron Chancellor mind his own business, or words to that effect. He is not disposed to take either the rejection of his offer or the manner in which it was done very kindly, and having no other recourse at present, sets his newspapers on to irritate and affront those whom he could not wheedle, persuade or intimidate.

From this it would seem that the traditional independence and love of liberty which were born and flourish in some respects among the mountain tops, are not only alive but as ready to come forth and show themselves as in the days of the mythical William Tell and the real Austrian tyrant Gessler.

Switzerland is fortunately situated, her numberless defiles, narrow passes and frowning cliffs constituting formidable barriers to those who would seek a hostile entrance. It is safe to say that no one is better acquainted with this state of facts than the real ruler of the German Empire. His knowledge of the actual strength and probable means of resistance of every nation, state and division of Europe is doubtless as nearly perfect as statistics, information, research, study and actual observation can make it. He knows where to strike and how to strike, as well as when to refrain from striking; and it may be taken without saying that he is not going to strike Switzerland at present any harder than can be done through the press, an agency which in capable hands can annoy, harass and sometimes morally overcome, but which at long range seldom accomplishes much real mischief.

During the Franco-German war Switzerland occasionally harbored refugees and stragglers from both armies, as well as great numbers of civilians who desired to occupy neutral ground; and while on Swiss territory they were all safe. Neither of the hostile parties dared to cross the line separating the republic from its surroundings; and this condition of absolute autonomy, of actual independence, of quiet defiance to dissatisfied and meddling neighbors, is perhaps very exasperating to the German character. But what are they going to do about it? is the question.

It is claimed by some of the more spiteful and envious that Providence has done everything for Switzerland, inferring thereby that the people would not be so consequential if left upon the same footing as the other powers. Without debating the proposition, we will simply concur to the extent of asserting a patent fact—that no nation was ever known to become strong and prosperous without the aid of Providence.

#### SLIGHTLY WRONG.

HERE is a grammatical point which has been discussed and variously acted upon in every part of the country. The *New York Tribune*, in a recent article on the head of the Post Office Department, made use of the expression, "Our Postmasters-General." The *New York World* ridiculed this, and to emphasize its position cited such construction as "Majors-General,"