

administering which gentle snub he sat down again, and Mr. Lechrie disappeared a moment or so later.

"Judge Hoge will close the discussion," said the chairman. He came to the platform and said a few words, and the orations of the conference were at an end. Judge Hoge wanted to know "where will be the hand to raise against Statehood if the 'Liberal' party is disbanded?"

"Vote, vote," came from a hundred or two throats, and at length the "Boss" yielded to the persistent calls of the audience.

The four out and dried propositions were impressively read by Powers, and then submitted. They were, of course, all carried (with but one dissentient—somebody at extreme end of the hall) and the building rang with a loud buzz.

"Three cheers for the Liberal party" shouted Judge Powers, who had lashed himself into a very fury of enthusiasm. Hats and handkerchiefs went up, and having exclaimed to their hearts' content, the meeting dispersed on the stroke of eleven. It did not take many minutes to empty the building.

SOCIAL DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY.

The growth of social democracy in Germany is one of the most remarkable movements of the century. The first imperial Parliaments contained 9, 12, 24 and 11 social Democratic members. The present Parliament includes 35, the largest number ever yet elected. While the number is not insignificant, the number of votes cast is still more ominous. There are some 10 or 12 parties in Germany, but the social Democrats cast more votes than any other party at the election of 1890. Other parties have more representatives, because the social Democratic vote was not so concentrated. The fact that this vote comes from all sections of the country, and is more evenly distributed than that of any other party, is significant. It decreases, for the time being at least, the number of representatives in Parliament, but it indicates a greater hold upon the entire country. The stranger in Germany who discusses social and political topics will hear frequently enough the expression, "You know the social Democrats are now our largest political party." During the past summer I attended various meetings of workmen and all that I saw and heard confirmed the assertion that the labor movement in Germany is social democratic. If a meeting of any organized body of workmen is attended, the speakers may advocate specific measures for the time being, resembling those which meet with favor from trade unions in England and America, but the sentiment will almost invariably be heard that social democracy alone can bring permanent and complete relief from the evils under which the workmen suffer. A few women are generally found at their meetings, and some of them are good looking and intelligent.

The great increase of power of the political party which represents the working men has brought with it a certain feeling of responsibility. Obedience to law and the use of constitutional remedies were always recommended. Patience under persecution from the

authorities were enjoined. The folly of resistance to the constituted authorities of the land seemed to be ever present to the leaders, while they could not help feeling a certain gratification at the progress made by the use of legal methods. The sincerity of the social Democrat can scarcely be questioned. He has strong convictions for which he has suffered and is willing to suffer. The only real missionary zeal and strong faith which impressed me in Germany I found among the social Democrats. They have an interest in life; they have a purpose in which they believe and for which they think it worth while to make sacrifices. The coldness, the indifference and the skepticism found in the churches of Germany which I diligently attended contrasted most painfully with the faith and energy of the social Democrats.

When social Democracy is mentioned it must be borne in mind that it means not merely socialism but Democracy, and emphasis is laid on both of these terms. A social Democrat believes that socialism in Germany, to be worth anything, must come through Democracy. This explains the strong opposition which they have encountered.

A "LIBERAL" DISSENTS.

Pardon me for troubling you. Just now I can hardly refrain from writing you a line. The *Tribune* of this morning, referring to the Liberal Territorial conference of last night, says that the conference voted without a dissenting voice. That may be true. It does not, however, prove that there were no dissenters present. I think there were many. And there is not a doubt in my mind that it will be shown by the ballot that will be cast in November next. Many dissenters kept their seats, not wishing to make any special display of themselves.

In reference to that "single voice" referred to by the *Tribune*, that sounded as that paper says, like that of a small boy shouting "No," I will say knowingly—"That voice was the voice of a full grown man—a man who, from the beginning of the Liberal party identified himself with that party and held on to it till within a very few days past. Becoming convinced that the time had about arrived when the Liberal party should disband, I went to the conference last night, intending too, if there seemed to be the least chance, to take the stand and, in a very few words, state my disapproval of continuing any longer the organization of the Liberal party. Finding, however, that so many of the lesser lights of the party organization (some of the greater lights of the party having just before gone out) were so very anxious to make as good a display of themselves as possible—one hour or more before the conference adjourned, the writer made up his mind to keep his seat.

If he had spoken he would have at least said to the first proposition: "I think not. It is not likely that any Liberal can be elected." A delegate to the nation's Congress is not local, but national. To the second proposition, No. Let the Republicans and Democrats of the party divide their forces and vote their respective party tickets." To the third proposition, Yes. Just so

soon as the parent government is ready to give us statehood. To the fourth, Yes. Disband now, and thereby test the political sincerity of the priesthood of the Mormon church. Come what may the past cannot possibly ever be repeated. Such fellow citizens is my judgment.

DISSENTER.

MODERN CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

BANGUINE Christian missionaries in Japan have endeavored to create an impression abroad that the inhabitants of that country are almost ready to embrace Christianity *en masse*. The fact is, however, that of a population of forty million souls, only forty thousand are professed Christians of the various denominations, and for each Christian church, there are at least five heathen pagodas. Now, a missionary reports that the heathen population in Japan are organizing societies to defend the people from further encroachment by the foreign religion. A Mr. Carey says, that when he, a short time ago, passed through Takefu, he noticed on almost every door in the city a board bearing an inscription, stating that the occupants had solemnly promised never to have anything to do with Christianity.

This seems to prove that the Japanese after years of studying the new religion as presented by the various missionaries, have finally come to the conclusion that their own theology is superior and worth maintaining.

FAVORS HOME RULE.

THE following is from the *New York News*:

"It reads somewhat strangely when we find in the Congressional reports that the House of Representatives last week passed a bill to grant local self-government to the people of Utah Territory. Many people had supposed that local self-government was the keystone of our American system. Other Territories had long since received at the hands of the Federal Government the full right to elect their Legislatures and make their local enactments, the power being reserved at Washington, but almost never exercised, to disapprove of any Territorial act not in consonance with our General Government's policy. But in Utah, in consequence of religious disputes, the Federal Government has, ever since the beginning of the Grant administration, denied the right of control of their own local affairs to the people, and has sent out satraps and pachas to rule with absolute sway.

"If there ever was an excuse for this arbitrary usurpation it long since disappeared.

"The cause of offense being thus removed, it is but just that the American citizens in that Territory should enjoy the privileges of American citizens elsewhere, without reference to the religion they profess. But the Democratic and the Republican Presidential conventions have this year admitted Mormon delegates to seats, with no more question than though they had been Quakers, Roman Catholics or Agnostics. And the Democratic House of Representatives has now striven to atone for past prejudices and injustices by passing the act we have referred to. The Senate should concur, and thus recall the despotic gang of Federal office-holders who are making all the trouble there now is in Utah."