

occurred at the transfiguration is what is given in the gospels; Luke says that Moses and Elias spoke to the Savior "of His descent which He should accomplish at Jerusalem;" and Matthew and Mark recite the admonition that the three Apostles should not tell what took place until after Jesus "had risen from the dead."

Appropos of claims like that referred to, we would suggest that it is hardly the proper thing in doctrine to "guess" at the purpose of or proceedings at an event where the record does not give the information, or to credit public speakers with having declared so and so merely upon hearsay, which is quite likely to be in error. There are some occurrences in the past that are not matters of record, and it is as unprofitable to attempt to supply the deficiency by supposition as it is to attempt to show the cut or color of the coat of some ancient worthy, when the information is not vital to our interests. In the matter referred to, when the record of what Moses and Elias did is essential to progress, there is no doubt that it will be forthcoming; in the meantime study and thought can be directed more profitably in ways other than along a suppositional line.

### THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

Viewed from the peculiar state of affairs in the country at present, the meeting of the Democratic national convention in Chicago tomorrow, July 7, is the most important of that great political party for a quarter of a century at least. This importance is not measured by the immediate prospect of defeat or victory at the coming election in November so much as by the attitude in which it will place various classes of people in their relation to topics the convention will deal with. The currency problem is the foremost issue, and whether the Democracy will be split up upon that question as badly as the Republicans are in the West, or more so, is a matter now soon to be determined.

There are some reasonable certainties connected with the outlook, and some decided uncertainties; the latter are of course the most interesting. One of the reasonable certainties is that there will be a free coinage plank in the platform. Another is that there will be no "bolt" like that at St. Louis. The silver advocates at St. Louis retired from that convention for the reason that they felt the "sound money" plank would be given full effect in supporting a gold standard. The "sound money" men will not "bolt" at Chicago for the reason that they believe a free coinage plank will not amount to anything of a serious character, if the rest of the convention proceeding can be kept somewhere near in harmony with their view; and if it is not, there is plenty of time to center on a course to pursue whereby the "bolt" will not be from the party but more in the nature of a protest at the polls. As to the uncertain features, these relate to the concessions that must be made to hold the "sound money" wing of the party on election

day, and to the candidates that will be named.

The present indications are for a vigorous contest which may be decided quickly in the convention, but which will be carried to the polls. The silver men are confident, and seem to have a clear majority for all purposes; but the gold men are well organized, powerful and determined. The latter may go down in the convention, but if they do it will not be by such an overwhelming majority as overslaughed the "bolting" St. Louis delegates, or without the fear that those same gold advocates may circumvent the convention's design in the campaign.

Whatever may be done at Chicago, there is every prospect that this year will see three prominent presidential tickets in the field. There is the Republican ticket; the Chicago convention in all probability will name straight Democratic candidates—the only consistent procedure for the party—and there will be the Populist nominees. The last named party leaders endorsed Senator Teller's candidacy, but the endorsement was not greeted enthusiastically by the rank and file; nor will be that of a silver Democrat. Hence the Populists may be looked to to put up men of their own, to whose support many that are disgruntled with old party procedure will go.

### THE EXCITEMENT IN BAVARIA.

As will be remembered, there was quite an excitement in South Germany caused by a speech, at a banquet in Moscow, during the coronation festivities, when the chairman of the committee referred to the German princes as members of the suite of Prince Henry of Prussia and Prince Ludwig of Bavaria warmly declared that the princes were not of the attendants of the Prussian prince, nor vassals of the German empire, but allies of the emperor. The incident seemed about to be forgotten when, a short time ago, Emperor William poured oil on the dying embers by decorating the chairman of the committee who made the objectionable speech. Naturally enough, a man chosen to receive the representatives of the emperor is worthy of the honor of wearing the insignia of the order of the Red Eagle, but the fact that the emperor after that which happened at Moscow made him an object of this honor is in Bavaria looked upon as a new insult. The Bavarian press treats the matter as such and the people supports this view.

The prince regent, Luitpold, has done his best to allay the feelings among the people, but only with indifferent success. This was made evident, when at the close of the Bavarian Landtag, the presiding officer expressed his gratitude to the Bavarian royal house for its endeavors to preserve the independence of Bavaria and defend its treaties. The speech was greeted with prolonged applause, as its allusion to the Moscow incident became apparent. In addition to this patriotic societies from all parts of the country send addresses of congratulation to Prince Ludwig.

It is particularly noteworthy that the Catholic party is taking a great

interest in this agitation. Catholic papers condemn in strong language the continued attempts of Prussia to force Prussian domination on the independent German states. A German empire under protestant Prussia's domination can not be the Catholic ideal of a state.

The present outburst of feeling in Bavaria is looked upon in Berlin as insignificant. It is clear, however, that it is a symptom of an existing condition that may become grave. In South Germany the erratic acts and pyrotechnic speeches of the present emperor have always caused indignation. The people there have grievances, too, among which are the taxes on wine, which fall on the southern sections of the empire entirely; and also the unsatisfactory treatment of the South German railways as compared to that of the Prussian lines. If Emperor William really desires to perpetuate the work of his illustrious grandfather and the equally illustrious chanceller, he must not forget that only the impartial exercise of his power, to the equal benefit of all sections of the country, can secure this end. At first unity was affected in the dazzling rays of military splendor. But this belongs to the past. Unless some stronger means of consolidation be employed, Germany will disunite, as the memory of victories and of heroes becomes dim. Perhaps the present agitation in Bavaria will be a reminder to those in power of the fact that empire-building is a continuous work; that it is not the erection of an Egyptian pyramid, with its huge blocks piled one upon another finally to stand for ages in spite of the ravages of the elements, but the building up of a living organism that needs tender care and judicious treatment for the development of all its parts, of which each one has its own importance for the well-being, the development, the beauty of the whole. If so, all parties will benefit by it.

In the meantime Prince Ludwig has found it convenient to repair to Hungary, probably in order to be out of the way for the ovations the people had intended to give him, as expressions of their approval of his protest in behalf of Bavaria.

### THE SALINA CALAMITY.

In Sevier county the Fourth of July was saddened by a most lamentable occurrence, made doubly regretful by the fact that it was caused, according to the report we have received, by inexcusable recklessness. That improvised apparatus for firing salutes, a couple of anvils, was dangerous at best, as proved on many previous occasions. With one of these a young man willfully persisted in remaining close to where the people had assembled to celebrate, despite frequent warnings and requests to retire, and at last the result that might have been anticipated came—somebody was hurt; and that somebody was three innocent children, at least two of whom will be maimed for life and one may fill an early grave.

It cannot be said that the official discipline of Salina is entirely without blame in this matter. On the Fourth,