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NEW YORK POLITICS.

The present three-cornered war that is being waged in New York over the personnel of the next municipal ticket, is furnishing the country with some valuable lessons in politics. It shows all else betrays the weakness, if not the utter insincerity, of those combining partisanship in efforts for reform. The Herculean task that has been undertaken in that city is the correction of an evil which has been before outlined in these columns and whose present features are thus portrayed by the *Boston Herald*:

The existence of a system under which men swear to endorse the law and betray it to allow it to be violated cannot be said to be peculiar to New York, but it is worked there on a larger and more repulsive scale. Bankers, jobbers and millionaires dry goods jobbers, transportation monopolists and lumber and beer men, pious of good and evil repute, pay the tax; whenever and whenever the police force has a chance to shake down for increase or a suspension of activity then little doing a raiser, the fishing gain is shaken and a fee is extorted, with more or less of taking by the way, in the pocket that is always bulging, but never full.

The crusade against this monstrous system began with the change of politics last season. It was a feature of the campaign and the one which turned the affairs of the state over from the Tammany gang championed by Ex-Governor D. B. Hill, into the hands of the Republicans generalized by Ex-Senator Thomas C. Platt. For a short time the regime of reform were a unit and faced the thunder of the enemy with a placid countenance. The war cry "Down with Tammany" was so popular that party discipline was apparently brushed aside and Democrats, Populists, Single-Taxers and the rest swelled the ranks, until no one political lose could claim the leadership without inviting a disastrous mutiny.

It has been evident for some time that everything was not agreeable with either Mr. Platt or the Democratic leaders, and now comes an incident of politics which has probably ruptured good feelings beyond all remedy. A mayor is to be elected, and the thought of a Republican's voting for a Democrat of any conceivable dimension has shocked the feelings of Mr. Platt beyond description. And for a Democrat to vote for a ticket with a Republican at the head of it is in the opinion of ex-Mayor Grace, an impossible thing. In the meantime the Tammany chief looks pleasant as usual and sets triumphantly, "What's the bid for my vote?"

The struggle is not up, but at this point it looks very much as if Tammany holds the key to the situation as firmly as ever and in the end will be the sole beneficiary of the war designed for its extermination. With the two great parties divided against each other, it holds an absolute balance of power and can dictate the terms of settlement, as it has been doing from its beginning.

If New York were the only state afflicted by this anomalous condition we might look on with no great disturbance of spirit; but in its present attitude Tammany holds not only the grip on New York, but may to a great extent dictate the politics of the entire nation. It has more than once told the country who it should have for a president, and having elected the president it became a very natural action to tell the president what was the proper thing for the country. In other words the governing body of the country may be Congress or Tammany Hall, according as Mr. Crisp and Mr. Platt say it may act upon what it shall be mayor of New York city.

REDUCING PUBLIC BURDENS.

Rafael Gallegos is president of the republic of Salvador. A short time ago he was an exile from the country and found refuge in Guatemala. Quite a popular book at the time was Lucien Carr's Edom, in the form of letters from Gallegos to his friends, in which he was represented as a man of ability and energy, and one of the first men of his affairs in office revealed that he actually set to work to reduce the burdens of his people. Among the measures he adopted were the following:

He reduced the salaries of all the officials in the country, from the president down to the humblest employee, and at the same time increased the salaries of the lowest officials. He abolished the office of vice president, and the office of governor of the capital, and the office of governor of the capital, and the office of governor of the capital