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The Revived Attempt To Punish the South.

PAYNE'S MEASURE TO REDUCE SOUTHERN REPRESENTATION.

It Was a Favorite Measure With Him When He Was Representative from Illinois—He Now Occupies a More Potential Position and Will Again Push His Plan.

[Baltimore Sun.]

As the time for the assembling of Congress approaches we again hear of the plan to reduce the representation of the Southern States in the House of Representatives. This was a favorite measure of Mr. Henry C. Payne, a member of Congress from Wisconsin, now postmaster general of the United States. Mr. Payne introduced a bill to carry out his design against the South and ardently urged its passage. He was unsuccessful in his attempt and could scarcely obtain a hearing for his arguments outside the partisan newspapers. But as a member of the president's cabinet and enjoying the reputation of being the political conductor of the administration, he now occupies a more potential position than he did as a member of Congress. It is reported now that Mr. Payne says Congress will be expected to enact his bill, and without any complicity in the President's message. If it should fail to do so, then he thinks the Republican National Convention, will take action upon the subject. The bill to deprive the Southern States of a portion of their representation in Congress is based upon the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution, which was ratified by force of arms in 1866, 1867 and 1868, when the entire South, except the negro population, was disfranchised. Section 2 of that amendment provides as follows: "Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of the United States senators representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a State, or the members of the legislature thereof, is denied any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male persons twenty-one years of age in such State."

The fifteenth amendment prohibits any denial or abridgement of the right to vote on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

The representation of the States in Congress down to the time of the adoption of the fourteenth amendment was apportioned among the States according to their respective numbers, which were determined by adding to the whole number of free persons three-fifths of the slave population. In framing or enforcing a law to carry out the views of the postmaster general there will be many practical difficulties. Of course the object of the bill is to reach every State in the South, but ostensibly it will be directed against those whose constitutions contain the so-called 'grandfather clause.' That clause is intended to disfranchise as many negroes as possible without coming in conflict with the fifteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution. If they disfranchised the negro because of his race, then that provision would be null and void and Mr. Payne's bill would be unnecessary. All that would be required would be for the persons so unconstitutionally deprived of their votes to appeal to the courts. But no one is deprived of his vote on that account. The disfranchised people are mainly the illiterates. If all the illiterates were disfranchised, the census would be a guide to the number. But all illiterates are not disfranchised, and it is practically im-

possible to ascertain with any degree of accuracy the number disfranchised. The number, in fact, varies from year to year.

In the Constitution of Alabama, for instance, the following persons who have the requisite qualifications of age, sex and residence are permitted to vote:

First—All who can read and write the English language and have been engaged in some lawful business or occupation for the greater part of the 12 months preceding the registration. Second—The owner or the husband of the owner of 40 acres of land in the State or of real and personal property assessed for taxation at as much as \$300, the taxes on which have been paid.

In addition to these all persons who have honorably served in the United States or the Confederate States army or navy and their lawful descendants and "all persons who are of good character and who understand the duties and obligations of citizenship under a republican form of government." It would appear that to ascertain the number disfranchised by this constitution would be almost impossible. The registration is no guide, for here in the city of Baltimore there are now over 30,000 people who are entitled to register and vote and who are not registered.

The South can view with equanimity any such attempt upon its constitutional rights. Congress has so long been conducted as a sectional body that the South would perhaps fare as well if it sent no representatives and took no part in it. The Southern States, in their poverty and ruin from which they are now recovering, have been levied upon for many years to pay twenty or thirty million dollars annually in pension money to the north, and one would think that the most exacting, cruel and relentless conquerors would be satisfied with that. But it seems that there is a strong sentiment in the North in favor of continuing to treat the South as a conquered province.

Perhaps the real reason why Mr. Payne and those who agree with him wish to reduce Southern representation in the house is found in the second article of the constitution, which fixes the number of electors in a State. This number is equal to the whole number of senators and representatives. With any material reduction of the southern vote in the electoral colleges it is believed it would be impossible for the Democrats to elect a president.

But Mr. Payne should remember that the history of this country shows that all such revolutionary schemes for maintaining party power react upon the party which attempts them. The Force bill movement in the Fifty-first Congress was an illustration, and the gerrymandering of States has often been found to injure the party which does it.

Kiss the Hand, Don't Shake It.

[Atlanta Journal.]

Fashionable folk of Paris no longer shake hands in greeting. Instead the man kisses the woman's hand in old time courtly fashion. If the two have passed the bowing state he is permitted to kiss the tips, but only the tips, of her first two fingers. As they become more friendly he is allowed to approach the first knuckle, then the second, then the third and so on to the back of the hand. When they are very good friends the wrist may, with perfect propriety, be kissed.

If she is graceful and he be an expert in the social graces, the salutation is pretty and picturesque. She extends a white, jeweled hand with queenly air and he bows over it with Chesterfieldian politeness, just touching the fingers with his lips as he holds her hand in his. Whether American husbands will approve of the Parisian greeting in the case of their own wives is a question. For, of course, with the Parisian stamp on this revival of the old time salute, it is likely to become popular in this country.

GROVER CLEVELAND ON DEMOCRACY'S FUTURE.

SEES THE STAR OF HOPE RISING ABOVE THE HORIZON.

Thinks the party Has Regained Its Old-Time Fighting Condition and Can Hope for One of Its Old-Time Successes.

[From the New York World.]

My opinions on political matters are well known and I should hesitate to make any further statement were it not for the urgent solicitation of the World, which is pursuing an editorial policy that must, in my judgment, tell for Democratic success and the public welfare.

Moreover, what I say to the World's representative will, I know, be entirely free from the outrageous attempts lately made to represent me as endorsing not only undemocratic politics, but men who have unfortunately gained temporary Democratic notoriety.

It seems to me that the Democratic situation is such as to awaken the satisfaction and hope of every thorough and consistent Democrat. Our party has certainly regained its old-time fighting condition and recovered the morale that promises old time success and prestige.

I think, however, while we can safely assume that we are not immediately threatened with a repetition of undemocratic heresy, there are palpable dangers to be avoided if the rejuvenation of democracy is not to be obstructed. The movement toward this rejuvenation tends to a complete abandonment of our late yielding to the temptations of expediency, as against a firm adherence to Democratic doctrines.

The condition necessitates, in my opinion, both in the enunciation of platform principles and the selection of candidates, a sturdy and determined march to the goal of substantial and thorough Democracy. In other words, I believe that, if the Democratic party is tempted under a mistaken apprehension of the meaning of the revival of true Democratic sentiment, to stop short of this goal and temporize by presenting to the people platform, principles and candidates not entirely in keeping with an absolutely changed policy, it will fail to convince the people of its sincerity or to satisfy them that it can safely be trusted.

Such a condition cannot better be described than by the homely illustration of a man sitting down between two chairs. Such behavior would discourage sincere and thoughtful Democrats now hopeful and expectant, and repel a large independent contingent who seek relief from the headless arrogance of the Republican party.

It may as well be fully understood that any party promising such relief cannot calculate that the people are in the mood to be deceived or cajoled by the tricks of expediency. The movement now under way must be pursued with thoroughness, consistency and honesty. There need be no fear that a radical return to true Democracy is dangerous to Democratic success. The history of the party abundantly shows that it is only departure from principle and yielding to temptations for expediency that have brought disaster.

The hope of the Democratic party lies in the inevitable discovery by our people of its beneficent aims and purposes. Already the beneficiaries of the high protective tariff are so reduced in number, and the benefits derived from protection are so palpably lessened, even as applied to the selfish interests of those who have heretofore insisted upon its continuance, that they are inclined to receive with favor the adoption of the Democratic doctrine of a tariff for revenue.

The popular apprehension of the evils of aggressive expansion, and its incompatibility with what has always been regarded as safe Americanism, is constantly growing and cannot fail to become, in the near future, a most important factor in the political thought of our people. The tremendous growth of trusts,

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A fine selection! Latest styles! Best fabrics! Such an opportunity has never before been placed before the purchasing public.

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the immense business aggregations and the manner in which they stifle healthful competition and throttle individual enterprise cannot long pass unheeded by the voters of the land. The stupendous governmental extravagance that now prevails must at length be appreciated by people as not only a drain upon their earnings and accumulations, but as a most pernicious example calculated to undermine the love of whole some economy among our citizens.

These topics and others which might be mentioned, and the abuses connected with them, should be bravely and uncompromisingly dealt with by the Democratic party, as they all involve Democratic principle. We should have sufficient faith in the intelligence and right-mindedness of our countrymen to arouse a confident anticipation that they will speedily confide the treatment of these vital questions to the party which satisfies them of its intention to deal with them in an honest, unequivocal and patriotic manner.

I see only hope and confidence in the future of the Democracy, but this hope and confidence are based entirely on the belief that the party will be true to itself and true to its profession of devotion to the welfare of the people.

Grover Cleveland.

Though the gas meter never fails to register it has no vote.

PREACHER CALLED DOWN.

Attack Upon Masonry Made in His Sermon by Laurens Preacher Resented by Masons Present.

[News and Courier.]

Laurens, November 26.—At Popular Springs, a leading Baptist church in this county, the Rev. H. C. Haddock, in the course of his sermon last Sunday morning, made a harsh attack on the Masonic Order. E. H. Mitchell, a leading farmer, arose and denied Mr. Haddock's statements, and inquired if he were a Mason. He admitted that he was not. Mr. Haddock's language was to the effect that the claim that the Masonic tenets were based upon the

Bible was trash, and his words are said to have been extremely offensive to the Masons present. Jefferson Crawford and other leading men of the church joined Mr. Mitchell in resenting Mr. Haddock's expressions and he brought his sermon to an abrupt close.

After the service Mr. Haddock was rebuked by several of the congregation. He is the pastor of the church and a young man.

Some time ago he is said to have made a similar attack on Masonry in a sermon in Anderson or Pickens county. Public sentiment seems to justify the interruption to the sermon.

It takes a photographer to throw light on his subject.