

mistake. There are thousands of people in Cleveland who haven't the money to invest in tickets. These people pay single fares, and they will continue to pay single fares, no matter what the saving in tickets may be. This is the class of street car patrons I want to see benefited. These are the people who are most entitled to any concessions that the street car company may grant. This is one of the best features of the zone plan. It treated everybody alike, rich and poor. Mr. Thompson's plan is unfair, and I do not think that it will be seriously considered either by the council or the street railway company.

"But if it falls the council should not be discouraged. There is only one way to reach a conclusion in this matter and that is by keeping everlastingly at it. Any legislation that keeps the question before the people is good legislation, and I hope we will have enough new ideas from other councilmen to keep the pot boiling."—Cleveland Plain Dealer of Feb. 15.

LINCOLN AND HIS PARTY.

Written by Louis F. Post for the Lincoln's birthday number of the Johnstown (Pa.) Daily Democrat, February 14, 1904, and reproduced by permission of the editor of the Democrat, Warren Worth Bailey.

Political history plays fantastic tricks. Who could have foretold, for instance, that the party which Thomas Jefferson founded upon the principle of human equality before the law, would become the great protagonist of human slavery in American politics? Yet that metamorphosis, amazing as it was, is more than equaled by the one which the party of Lincoln has undergone.

Lincoln led the young Republican party in a victorious assault upon the slave power, as Jefferson had led the young Democratic party in a victorious assault upon the Imperial Federalists. It was the same fight on another field, the same victory in another form. But as Lincoln lived to see the party of Jefferson abandon its democratic principles and swing over to the side of chattel slavery, so we to-day have seen the party of Lincoln repudiate its democratic mission and swing over to the support of systems of servitude, which, though more subtle in form than chattel slavery, are no less repugnant to democratic principle. What the slave oligarchy, with its vast plantations and hordes of human chattels, was to Jefferson's degenerate party of 50 years ago, the plutocracy of to-day, with its enormous special privileges and an abjectly dependent people, is to Lincoln's de-

generate party now. Jefferson's party had so far fallen as to promote proslavery policies and boldly to enact proslavery laws. Lincoln's party has so far fallen as to promote policies of economic privilege and boldly to legislate for class interests. The one sold itself to slave drivers; the other has sold itself to slave makers.

Along with these paradoxical changes of a century in American politics, a still more fundamental change has been insidiously accomplished. Slowly, persistently, progressively, the Hamiltonism which Jefferson routed in politics at the elections of 1800, has recovered all the ground it lost then, and much more besides. Though driven completely out of politics at that time, so completely that the Federalist party, the party of Hamilton, soon ceased to exist, Hamiltonism had secured control of the Supreme Court, which laboriously planted the pernicious roots of Hamiltonism deep in the fresh soil of our national jurisprudence. To revive its hold upon politics, Hamiltonism then needed nothing more than the military necessities of civil warfare; and the occasion for these was recklessly furnished by the degenerate party of Jefferson when it had fallen wholly under the influence of the slave power.

After two generations of Americans had been insidiously fed upon Hamiltonism through court decisions, and a third had become accustomed to its operation in the exceptional circumstances of military necessity, that imperial policy was sufficiently equipped for another conflict with democracy in the political arena. Accordingly, Hamiltonism has again sprung into politics. Having gained possession of the Republican party, the Hamiltonian ideals of the old Federalist party have crowded out the democratic ideals of Lincoln and Jefferson. The party of Lincoln has become the party of Hamilton.

Lincoln's faith in "government of the people, by the people, for the people," he had inherited from Jefferson, not from Hamilton. Hamiltonism tolerates no ideals of equality, except as listless summer dreams. It is the modern American name for that old class doctrine which may be defined in the terms of our day as "government of the people, by the wealthy, for the wealthy." What Charles I. died for, the divine right of kings; what the fatuous advisers of Louis XVI. drove that fabled monarch to the guillotine for, the divine right of privileged classes; what the slave oligarchy of the United States represented in its crudest and rawest form, unbridled power—those are the things in principle that Hamiltonism

involves. The form changes with time and varies with place, the issue shifts with circumstances; but the principle is always and everywhere the same. It is exploitation through legal privilege.

The modern American name for this is properly Hamiltonism, for its purposeful supporters of to-day are invariably Hamiltonians. Without exception they are inspired by Hamilton's aristocratic ideals. It is into the control of such men that the Republican party has fallen. From the Jeffersonian party of Lincoln, it has become the Hamiltonian party of — well, of anyone you please among the great modern chevaliers d'industrie.

If Lincoln's party, once so gloriously democratic, must sink into this plutocratic degradation, at any rate let Lincoln's name and memory be preserved by the democratic spirit of our people. Instead of encouraging future generations to identify him with the Hamiltonian Rockefellers and Morgans and Hannas who have captured his party, let patriotic Americans place him by the side of Jefferson, from whom he drew his inspiration; and with his fervor and in his words let them send up the democratic prayer that "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

MR. SHAFROTH'S SPEECH ON WITHDRAWAL.

An extract from the Congressional Record, proceedings of the House of Representatives, on Monday, February 15, 1904.

MR. SHAFROTH—Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of personal privilege.

THE SPEAKER—The gentleman will state it.

MR. SHAFROTH—It relates to the right of a Member to a seat in this House.

THE SPEAKER—The gentleman will proceed.

MR. SHAFROTH—Mr. Speaker, in the contested election case of Robert W. Bonyng against John R. Shafroth it was stipulated and agreed by contestant and contestee that the ballots cast at that election in the 29 contested precincts should be brought before the Committee on Elections of this House and opened for the first time in the presence of its Members. The ballots were those cast at the general election of 1902 for State officers and Representatives in Congress. The object was that the original arrangement, form and condition of the ballots should first be seen by the committee. The ballots were shipped to the Clerk of the House of Representatives at the joint expense of contestant and contestee.