

POLITICAL PARTIES.

Abolitionists.

During the Revolution, and when the Constitution was made, various societies were formed for the *abolition* of slavery, the first originating in Philadelphia, April 14, 1775, with Benjamin Franklin as president. A second society with the same purpose in view, formed in New York, January 25, 1785, with John Jay as president (later succeeded by Alexander Hamilton). These were the beginnings of many throughout the States, their meetings, publications and petitions being treated respectfully until the development of cotton planting in the early part of the nineteenth century raised the price of slaves, when the struggle between the anti-slavery and pro-slavery interests began. The contest out of which the term *Abolition* grew dates with William Lloyd Garrison's arraignment of slave-holders as criminals in 1829, he two years later publishing "The Liberator." This was afterward followed by the formation in Boston of the *New England Anti-Slavery Society*, for the purpose of promoting the cause of emanci-

pation, and with a similar object at Philadelphia, the creation of the *American Anti-Slavery Society*.

The *Abolitionists* appeared in 1840, as a distinctive party, calling themselves the *Liberty Party*, whose advocacy finally culminated in the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863. In February, 1866, slavery was abolished forever from the territory of the United States, by act of Congress.

The Abolition, Whig and Federal were parties of liberal ideas and aggressiveness; when their mission was accomplished, each disappeared until called into life to meet a new crisis.

American.

The Kansas-Nebraska bill of 1853 occasioned a split in the Whigs in 1854, who allied with the *Know-Nothings* and became the *American Party*. In 1860 it took the place of the Whigs in the South.

In convention at Philadelphia, September 16-17, 1887, the name again assumed as a party politic, founded on "love for our country and its institutions, believing that America should be governed by Americans." (See Know-Nothings.)

Anti-Federalists.

One of the first two political parties under the present Constitution, the outcome of the *Particularists*. They were the opposers of the Constitu-

tion of the United States, which was then spoken of as the *Federal Constitution*.

The Anti-Federalists were unwilling to take certain great powers from the States and give them to the General Government, were jealous of the power of Congress, too much national power, lest a monarchy should be established, and were strong adherents to rights of State and local self-government.

In 1791 withdrew against the Constitution, turning against financial measures of the Federals toward funding of State debts. In 1796 became the *Republican Party*, branching into Jeffersonian Republicanism, afterward becoming the *Democrat*. (See Republican and Democrat.)

Anti-Monopoly.

Formed May 14, 1884, at Chicago, under the title of *The Anti-Monopoly Organization of the United States*, demanding economical government, enactment and enforcement of equitable laws, including an Inter-state Commerce Law (a law enacted in 1887), establishing Labor Bureaus, providing Industrial Arbitration, direct vote for Senators, graduated income tax, payment of the national debt as it matures, and "fostering care" for agriculture; and denouncing the tariff and granting of lands to corporations. Joined issue with the Greenback-Labor Party under the name of the "People's Party."

Bloody Shirts.

Applied to those Republicans who are continually raising the late war issues; appealing to war sentiments. The term originating from a disguise of the Ku-Klux-Klan, pictured by the Republicans as covered with negro blood.

Carpet-Baggers.

Applied to Northern Republicans, who it was alleged came South after the war, and by the aid of negro votes were elected to local and State offices. Being so-called *transient* politicians, it was said they brought all their effects in their carpet-bags.

Democrat.

Anglicized, from the French word *démocrate*, which finds its derivation from two Greek words, *Demos*, the "people," *cratos*, "government," literally, "one who is in favor of government by the people."

The party successor, in name of the *Republican*, descending unbrokenly from *Anti-Federalist*, through the Jeffersonian branch of Republicanism. Its title of *Democrat* being fully assumed as a party name in 1812, at the second election of Madison as President; in fact, as a party it has remained almost intact, both in form and name, from the first Presidential election (1789), being aided by conservatism and a policy of negation.

The adoption of the word *Democrat* traceable to the introduction, in 1793, by Citizen Genet, of France (imitative of the Jacobin Clubs of Paris), of sociable clubs, known as "Democratic Societies;" the first being instituted in Philadelphia, on May 30 of that year.

The party constructed and maintained upon the principle of popular government or popular sovereignty, with an indifference to the subject of slavery as to whether it was voted up or down.

In 1860 it lost a section on squatter sovereignty which took the name of *National Democrats*. In 1872 it endorsed the Liberal Republicans as to the necessity of reform, a change demanded, lest the disease of one political organization infect the body politic, and lest in making no change of men or parties the country obtains no change of measures and no real reform.

Dough-Faces.

Applied in 1820, from a remark that "they were plastic in the hands of demagogues;" a reference to the action of certain Republicans, who, for the sake of a compromise, voted in favor of striking slavery out of the *Missouri Bill*.

Also used as a nickname; given to Northern favorers and abettors of negro slavery; meaning a politician who is accessible to political influences

and considerations. Likewise given to such Northern members of Congress as manifested especial willingness to fall in with the views and demands of the South on questions involving slavery; *i. e.*, the Northerner false to the principles of freedom, or the Southerner false to the principles of slavery.

Federalist.

From the French word *Fédéraliste*, derived from Latin *foedus, foederis*; a covenant, a league.

One of the first two political parties under the new Constitution (1787). It was the outcome of the *strong government Whigs* opposing every preliminary step looking to the abandonment of the Articles of Confederation and the adoption of the *Federal* Constitution, in which it eventually succeeded, thereby creating the *Federal* Government, hence its name. It was the political party which favored the administration of Washington for President.

Through Adams' administration, the Alien and Sedition laws lost to the party the election of 1800. In 1808 it recovered with a strong minority, though bitterly opposing the war policy of the Republicans, on which, as a party, it eventually split, merging into the Whigs. As a party it disappeared with its candidate of 1816, Rufus King.

Fire-Eaters.

Applied in 1857 to strong anti-slavery politicians of the North. The Southern politician who vehemently denounced the Union also so called.

Free-Soilers.

Formed in 1848, from disaffected Democrats, advocating Congress should abolish slavery where it constitutionally had the power so to do (intended to apply to the District of Columbia), that it should not interfere with the slave States, but prohibit it in the Territories. It became the nucleus of the modern Republican Party, drawing largely from the Whigs, in 1848, who were opposed to the *Omnibus Bill*. The name of *Free-Soilers* came from the party cry of "free soil, free speech, free labor and freemen."

Grangers.

A secret society first formed in Washington, in 1867, and known as the *Patrons of Husbandry*; the subordinate lodges were known as *granges*, hence the party name.

The object was co-operative among farmers, in purchasing supplies from first hands, thereby doing away with middle men; and while declared not to be political, in order to serve the interest of certain land ends, it became necessary that individuals representative of their interests should be in Congress, and to serve this purpose the combined

influence of the *Grangers* was secretly brought to bear in voting, so that in time a strong political party was in actual existence, somewhat on the principle of the Know-Nothings.

G. O. P.

Initial letters of the *Grand Old Party*, a designation of the modern Republican Party.

Greenback.

Party favoring an unlimited issue of greenbacks (paper money), or an issue based upon the resources of the country, toward easing the rigors of a money panic; they opposed the resumption of specie payments according to act passed in January, 1875. In 1884 they amalgamated with the labor element under the name of *National Labor and Greenback Party*, as against Democrats. Also called *Inflationists*, *Soft-Money Men*, and *Platists*.

Know-Nothings.

Bartlett, in his *Americanisms*, notes: "The *Know-Nothing* Party was first formed by a person of some notoriety in New York, who called himself 'Ned Buntline' (Edward Z. C. Judson). Ned was once a midshipman in the United States Navy, but left the service, and commenced the business of Americanism on a large scale, by founding a secret political order, of so exclusive a character that none were to be admitted as members whose grandfathers were not natives of the

country. It is a difficult matter in a country like the United States where free inquiry is so common to keep anything secret; and so Ned instructed his proselytes and acolytes to reply to all questions in respect to the movements of the new party, 'I don't know.' So that they were at first called *Don't-Knows* and then *Know-Nothings*, by outsiders, who knew nothing further of them than that they invariably replied to all questions, 'I don't know.'"

The platform was:

1. Repeal of all naturalization laws.
2. None but native Americans for office.
3. A pure American common-school system.
4. War to the hilt on Romanism.

Ku-Klux-Klan, or K. K. K.

A secret society of great political significance in the Southern Central States, formed in 1868 for the intimidation of negro voters in order to defeat the Republicans. They traveled at night, disguised, among the negro sections, not hesitating at various outrages on the race; and before their disbandment by Republican Congressional action in 1872, it is stated they had reached nearly 300,000 in numbers. Their general purpose was similar to the White Liners of Louisiana.

Labor.

A general name given to *labor* politics; the divisions or factions are *United Labor*, *Union*

Labor, *Progressive Labor*, and the *Anti-Poverty Society*. All divided on the interpretation of the term, "the land for the people," and a direct maintenance and protection of the laborer.

Loco-foco.

A division arose in the Democratic Party (Oct. 29, 1835) in consequence of the nomination of Gideon Lee as the Democratic candidate for Congress, by the committee chosen for that purpose. The nomination, as customary, had to be confirmed at a general meeting of Democrats, called for October 29, 1835, at Tammany Hall, New York City. Lee's friends, anticipating opposition, assembled in large numbers in order to support him. The selection of chairman was the first question that arose, and it tested the strength of the divisions. The Tammany men (friends of Mr. Lee) supported Mr. Varion, while the Anti Monopolists did similar office for Mr. Curtis; each side claimed their party as the duly elected presiding officer, whereupon great confusion ensued, and during the excitement the lights were extinguished.

The *Equal Rights* (Anti-Monopolists) Party, having witnessed similar occurrences, or having received some intimations that such would be the course of their opponents, had previously provided themselves with *Loco-foco* matches and candles,

and the room was re-lighted in a moment. The meeting continued, and the Equal Rights section accomplished their object.

The "Courier and Enquirer" newspaper dubbed the Anti-Monopolists who used the matches, with the name of *Loco-focos*.

Mugwump.

Imparted in the Presidential campaign of 1884 to the *Independents* or Republican Seceders who favored the Democratic candidate for the reason that a change in administration was necessary, as twenty-four years was long enough for a party to be in power; too long a life-engrafted corruption.

The meaning of the word had no connection with its political application or use, being taken up in the nature of a by-word. It was first used as meaning a *Seceder*, by Gov. Waller, of Connecticut, and by one of the New York dailies introduced into the political literature of the time.

Mugwump is an Indian word, occurring in Eliot's Indian Bible, where it is used as an equivalent of "duke," as this latter word occurs in Genesis, chapter xxxvi.

National.

A split from the Prohibition Party in 1896. In addition to Prohibition it advocates the free coinage of silver, woman suffrage, and the abolition of all trusts and monopolies.

National Prohibition.

Out of the Independent Order of Good Templars, instituted in 1851 on the Temperance question, emanated a faction with political tendencies, that favored and elected Neal Dow as Mayor of Portland, Me., 1853, and in 1854, as the *Temperance Party* elected Myron Clark as Governor of New York. In 1868 Illinois and Michigan had taken up the matter on local issues, and formed Temperance and Prohibition political parties.

The first move toward a National Party in the interest of Temperance was in May 25, 1869, during a session of the Right Working Grand Lodge, I. O. G. T., at Oswego, N. Y., when a meeting was held to "favor independent action for the promotion of the temperance cause," resulting in a call for a National Convention to organize a National Prohibition Party; the meeting was ultimately held at Chicago, September 1, 1869.

The first Temperance candidate for the Presidency on a National Ticket was James Black, nominated in convention held at Columbus, O., February 22, 1872. The platform declaration of principles claimed the traffic in intoxicating beverages a dishonor to Christian civilization, a political wrong, and suppression only effective when legal prohibition is both State and National. That the entire prohibition of the liquor traffic is declared

to be a principle good in law and feasible in practice.

Native American.

The Federalists being *anti-alien*, the Democrats naturally sought alliance with aliens, as foreigners with the five-year naturalization limit, centering in New York, filled the New York division of Democracy to the exclusion of native Federalism, in the control of the city government, and to meet this condition of affairs the first attempt at a Native American organization was made. It began in 1835, and with the mayoralty election of 1837 failed, was renewed in 1844, with the vital principle of *American*, and was successful in electing its mayor of New York, its boom being incident to the action of Bishop Hughes in a speech in Carroll Hall, 1843, in which he advocated a distinct organization, as a party, of the Irish voters of New York. This was the first attempt to organize foreign citizens for political purposes. The party advocated the extension of the naturalization laws to twenty-one years, which with other extreme measures resulted in its defeat in 1845, through the strong opposition of Democrats and the Irish and Roman Catholic elements.

People's.

Originated in New York in 1823, as the Democratic supporters of Mr. Crawford and the *Albany*

Regency, advocating that electors should be chosen by the people and not by the Legislature, proclaiming they would favor only such candidate as would avow himself in favor of giving the people the right of appointing presidential electors. (See Anti-Monopoly.)

Personal Liberty.

Originated in New York, in 1887, as a pro-liquor combination, alleging sumptuary laws having nowhere proved effectual in extirpating intemperance nor in reducing immorality or vice, but invariably stirred up ill-feeling, that under pretence of serving religion and morality, of aiding in the prevention of crime, and diminishing the causes of pauperism, attempts are multiplying to encroach upon the rights of person and property guaranteed, laws having been passed detrimentally affecting time-honored customs and individual rights and privileges. "That as a political body they use all honorable means to promote the cause of civil and religious liberty by insisting upon the repeal of the obnoxious portions of the excise laws until that result be attained."

Populists.

(See Anti-Monopoly.)

Progressive Labor.

The radical, or socialistic, element that withdrew from the United Labor Party, at Syracuse, N. Y.,

August 19, 1886; their platform notes that the soil of every country is the social and common inheritance of the people; that labor produces all wealth, which includes the instruments through which alone the forces of nature become accessible, therefore all should have free access to land, and to the instruments of production without tribute to landlords and monopolists. That to the immediate relief of the working-class: eight hours a day's work, no child labor, no female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality, an extension of the common-school system, equal pay to both sexes, payment of wages weekly, first lien for workmen's wages, enactment of juster laws for liability of employer to employé, abolish contract system in prisons and on public works, and tenement-house manufacturing. Have thorough sanitary inspection to secure health of laborers, a non-importation of labor, to force existing beneficial labor laws, equal sex-citizenship and suffrage, repeal blue laws interfering with interests of labor, and all conspiracy tramp laws, class legislation and privileges; not allow Pinkertons; to have a public ownership in industries involving public franchises or performance of public functions; a direct issue of money, not through the banks; a special tax on unimproved land sufficiently high to compel its surrender to the community; tax incomes over \$2,000 per annum graduated to be most heavy on

monopolists; demand home rule, and many other "progressive" planks of interest to the labor class.

Prohibition.

(See National Prohibition.)

Republicans.

From the French *républicain*, from the Latin, *respublica*, *res*, "an affair," *publicus*, *publica*, "of or pertaining to the people, common to all."

The outcome of the Anti-Federalists, 1796. When the Bill of Rights to recognize the equality of all men, and their rights "to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," has been incorporated in and attached to the Constitution as Amendments, the Anti-Federalists amalgamated with a section of the Federalists, and at the suggestion of the party leader, Jefferson, it became known as the *Republican* Party, Jefferson promulgating this name, as he thought the name *Anti-Federalist* was inappropriate, the original cause of the name having become lost, as the party principles were more directly the opposers of Federal party measures.

The name Republican suggested to Jefferson through his being an ardent, enthusiastic friend of the French Revolution and its Republican principles, and maintained until 1826, when as representing the name of a political party disappeared into *Democrat*.

As a party name *Republican* re-appeared in 1855,

they interpreting its application as meaning "nationality." The Republicans have twice been a strong party politic; the original looked upon the Union as a democracy, persons, not States; the modern Republicans contemplated the Union as a Republic of itself, believing in its existence as a nation-republic.

In 1859, the modern adaptation was called into existence solely to resist the encroachments of slavery upon the free territory of the Union and the free States, that there should be an entire prohibition of the "twin relics of barbarism, polygamy and slavery," that white slavery must remain and be protected where it was. In the Republican platform the attempt of John Brown was denounced as "lawless and unjustifiable," denying the authority of Congress, of a Territorial legislature or of any individuals to "give legal existence to slavery in any territory of the United States," affirming the principles of the Constitution of the United States as essential to the preservation of Republican institutions, and that the rights of the States should be held inviolate, and especially that "the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depends."

In 1876, it demanded a vigorous Southern policy

and arraigned their opponents (Democrats) as seeking to perpetuate sectional strife. In connection with the name *Republican* as a great party name, there occurs a coincidence worthy of note, the "Republican Supremacy" of each party extended over the space of twenty-four years—1801 to 1825, and 1861 to 1885.

Tammany.

A society, *Tammany Society*, otherwise called the *Columbian Order* from 1789, composed of New York Democrats; the order originally formed by William Mooney of New York, an upholsterer, during the administration of Washington, in 1789, with the probable purpose of antagonism to the *Cincinnati Society*, which had an aristocratic tendency. Tammany originally having in view the preservation of democratic institutions, from contamination by the adoption of any aristocratic principles.

The name *Tammany* or *St. Tammany* adapted from the name of an Indian chief, *Tammenund*, tradition alleging "his attachment to liberty was greater than his love of life." The belief is, that the name was one of fancy in its selection, having no significant meaning.