

South, but in addition to the monetary issue, they have difficulties of their own. In New York there is schism: Tammany Hall has been divided into two factions, or rather one of them has been thrust out of the "Wigwam" by the other. Governor Tilden's drastic measures against municipal and departmental peculation, are displeasing to "bosses," canal contractors, and officials generally. Then there promises to be a sectional division arising from western jealousy of New York. The South and West decline to accept Governor Tilden, on the ground that he would be the fourth New York Democrat nominated in succession. A solution for the difficulties of this party might be found in the nomination of Charles Francis Adams, who would secure the anti-Grant wing of the Republicans, as a Conservative of independent and sterling character. It is, perhaps, unlikely that any such nomination will be made, however; for the Democrats have not yet forgotten how they burned their fingers with Horace Greeley. An attempt at "fusion" from the Republican side is being made in Massachusetts, but unfortunately it has a birth-taint—it is the offspring of personal ambition. The National Union party, as it is called, complains of the deep-seated corruption in all departments of government, opposes inflation and advocates the breaking up of existing parties. Speaking on the last point, the platform urges that, however necessary the support of extreme party organizations may have been in the past, it is "now dangerous and unpatriotic, inasmuch as it keeps in sight the ghosts of issues, long since dead, and tends to prolong an animosity injurious to our national prosperity, and to our credit and influence abroad." Another resolution declares that it is time "the people should resume their sway over the affairs of the nation, and organize anew." All this would have been much to the purpose, if the cloven foot had not been exposed in the call to the Convention, which submits the names of General Banks and Lamar of Mississippi, as candidates for 1876. Of course General Banks, in imitation of the President, can say that "he is not an aspirant or candidate for the Presidency," but every one knows what that means. The great difficulty with the old parties is, that they are divided on the two chief questions at issue—the Republicans on Southern policy, and the Democrats on the currency. The

Americans are adepts at wire-pulling, and will be able before next summer, by seceding, fusing, and welding, to present tickets and platforms to the electors in orthodox fashion.

The battle between Gov. Tilden and the canal contractors has ended in the discomfiture of the latter. Messrs. Denison, Belden and Co.—contractors, by the way, for Section No. 1 of the Welland Canal—have been turning an honest penny—in round numbers about half a million of dollars—by bribing Government officers, and securing fraudulent returns. To say nothing of the larger action, in which \$417,000 is claimed by the State, there are several minor ones—such as the Otisco dam. In this case, according to the *Herald*, it was originally intended, under the contract, to clear three acres of land at \$70 per acre. Afterwards, the contractors managed, by lobbying, to press a Bill through the Legislature providing for the continuance of the work, and the clearing of the lands round the Otisco Lake. They then cleared four hundred acres of their own motion, and drew \$30,000 from the Treasury, in addition to the value of the wood. We hope Mr. Mackenzie will take care that these gentlemen have no opportunity of displaying their peculiar talents in Canada. The exposure of the disagreeable condition of things in the New York Police Department, and in its municipal government generally, has nothing novel in it. On the other hand, the gigantic frauds in the Indian department at Washington, have not been paralleled since the downfall of Tweed and his associates. Everybody knew that the Indians were systematically cheated by the government agents, that their annuities were paid in rotten food, clothing, and tobacco; but it is amazing to hear that all this wrong has been systematically perpetrated with the consent, or at least the connivance, of Grant's bosom friend, the Secretary of the Interior. It seems to matter very little which party is in power, for both appear to be irretrievably corrupt. The civil war, creditable as it was to American valour and self-sacrifice, left behind it a baneful legacy in the demoralization of the people. For fifteen years, fraud and peculation have been gnawing at the vitals of the Republic, until they seem to have paralyzed its moral sense and depraved it nationally, commercially, and socially. It cannot be that a nation, in the