

tion; and justifying Miss Pollett's remark that "the whole history of the United States goes to prove that one-man power is inevitable" (*u*).

Many other things there are in the political government of the United States, which did space allow call for special comment. For example there is the strange condition of things by which the debit side of the national account is managed by one set of men, and the credit side by another set, both sides working separately and in secret, without any public responsibility, and without any intervention on the part of the executive official who is nominally responsible; of which system the 'Nation' wrote in 1882, "No other nation on earth attempts such a thing or could attempt it without soon coming to grief, our salvation thus far consisting in an enormous income, with practically no drain for military expenditure."

Then again we cannot dwell at all upon the results of the fact that, pursuant to the theory of checks and balances, the two Houses of Congress possess substantially equal and co-ordinate power, a state of things existing in no other great country in the world, whence arise, says Mr. Bryce, frequent collisions between the two Houses (*v*). "Congress was weakened," he says, "as compared with the British Parliament, in which one House has become dominant, by its division into two co-equal Houses, whose disagreement paralyses legislative action" (*w*). Neither can we discuss the way in which the Electoral Colleges contemplated by the Constitution have been reduced to the condition of so many voting machines; or the establishment of national conventions accompanied by the creation of an elaborate party machinery, and the systematic use of patronage as an engine in party warfare, until the organization has become as important a factor in the life of a party as the issues that are supposed to justify its existence. "On more than one occasion, indeed," says Mr. Lowell, "the perfection of its mechanism and

(*u*) *Ibid.*, pp. 304-5.

(*v*) *American Commonwealth*, Vol. 1, p. 183, (2 Vol. ed.).

(*w*) *Ibid.*, p. 278.