

needs. The Spoils system it is that, by breeding a swarm of mercenary politicians, who distract the country by their venal struggles, is the curse of the Republic: and the cure for this evil would be a Constitutional Amendment enacting that no person in the service of the United States, other than a member of the political executive, should be deprived of his place without cause duly assigned. Abolition of the office would, of course, be cause as well as inefficiency, breach of duty, or superannuation. Never, we fear, has the necessity of such a reform been more apparent than it is now. In the late election all the officeholders were taxed as usual, Presidential ordinances to the contrary notwithstanding: a vast sum must have been raised in this way and spent in various forms of bribery. General Garfield may perhaps say with truth that his election is a triumph over calumny: we are strangely misinformed if he can say with truth that it is a triumph over electoral corruption. Again we are constrained to ask how the political character of any nation can withstand forever the virus of evil passion and corruption which these vast faction fights infuse?

Little was heard of the Greenbackers; nor at this moment do we know exactly what vote they polled. In Illinois the number was 25,000, in Missouri 35,000, in Iowa 33,000. We are told that when the official returns come in the total will not fall short of half a million. Of the nominal Greenbackers many were no doubt absorbed by the two great parties, especially, we may be sure, by the Democratic party, as the party hostile to Resumption. Fusion in Maine proved affinity at all events, whatever may have been the exact relations of its elements. It seems clear, however, that Fiat Money has received a total overthrow. Not there—not in sham currency—lies the hope of improving the lot of the working class. Nor does it lie in taking banking or any department of commerce out of commercial hands and putting it into the hands of demagogues, incarnations of mere envy and malignity, to be ruined in the name of the State. A "National" party which would give itself to promoting the material inter-