

and the longer the time of tranquillity lasts, the more will men reflect, the louder will be heard the cries of the degraded and excluded classes at its wrong.

There is, however, one great mistake in the system pursued here, and that is, the leaving so large an amount of patronage in the President's hands to be distributed as rewards for electioneering services, instead of devising a well-regulated course of promotion, that should recognise the claims of merit and long services. The less spoils, too, there are, the less intriguing there will be, and the less chance of fighting for them.

Moreover, there are two capital faults in the constitution itself. The first of these is the proviso, by which every State returns members to the Legislature, in proportion to the numbers of its white population, plus three-fifths of its slaves. But these slaves are mere goods and chattels, and have not even a nominal vote. It would be quite as reasonable that three-fifths of the horses, pigs, and oxen in the State should count. However this favoured the lords of the South, and they got it inserted. The next fault is in the composition of the Senate, which consists of two members from each State, so that the smallest has as much influence as the largest. Wherever this is the case, a sinister influence must arise, the influence of those who have more to gain by corrupt government than by good.

Barring this objection, the mode in which the senators are chosen appears happily devised. The two local Houses of the Legislature in each State must concur in the choice of an individual, *i. e.* the absolute majority of each must be in his favour. About one-third of the Senate is replaced every two years.