

Jackson's accursed principle, that to political victors belong all political spoils, and what must be the effect? What if closely contested national elections occur? The spoils of party patronage are already becoming so great in the United States as to constitute, with large and often controlling portions of both political parties, wholly irresistible temptations to fraud. But the spoils grow vaster and fatter with fearful speed. *Only civil-service reform can remove this enormous coming mischief.* It can do so only by taking patronage from party, and giving it to the people. *Gigantic party political spoils, gigantic party political frauds,—these are cause and effect.* They imperil the peace of the republic. They must do so more and more as our population grows. *Ultimately in America there will be either civil-service reform or civil war.* [Sensation.]

#### THE LECTURE.

Plato represents Socrates as saying that he had looked at many authorities, and, among others, at the nature of things, but dared not look long at the latter for fear his eyes would be dazzled (*Phædon*). It is the radiance of the nature of things, or axiomatic, self-evident truth, which must frighten back to Chaos the vampire Doubt. On some sickly veins of our meaning and sceptical age that vampire broods as a nightmare; but no nightmare can bear the noon. Mrs. Browning sang plaintively in the name of poetry, and her antipodes, Ernst Hæckel, affirms aggressively in the name of science, that,

“A wider metaphysics would not harm our physics.”