“I cannot vote for a Democrat.” This is a remark which we constantly hear from men who admit that Mr. Blaine is dishonest, and who will not vote for him ... [n. p. 1884].

“This is a remark which we constantly hear from men who admit that Mr. Blaine is dishonest, and who will not vote for him. As one Republican has expressed it: “If Satan himself were the candidate of the Republican party, and the angel Gabriel were the candidate of the Democratic party, I should vote for the Republican candidate.” What does this mean?

It means that, no matter how high and honorable and able a man may be, if he calls himself a Democrat, he must be opposed; and no matter how low and sordid and base a man may be, if he calls himself a Republican, he is to be supported. Do you not see that this doctrine extends to all the false and base men of the country an invitation to join the Republican party, and to qualify themselves for high public trust by simply assuming the name?

Did Sumner and Greeley and Adams and Seward, the founders of the Republican party, and to-day the leaders whose memory it cherishes most fondly, change their natures and become base when they joined the Democratic party? Greeley was its candidate for President, and Adams its candidate for Governor of Massachusetts. If a man hands us two bottles, one containing champagne, but labelled champagne, and the other containing champagne, but labelled camphene, do we drink the first with enthusiasm and throw away the second because of the labels? And is it true that the great American people, which prides itself on its smartness, can see through the label on a bottle and not through the label on a man?

Fellow citizens, be not deceived. Consider what lies beneath the name, and by your votes say whether you can more safely trust this country to Speakers like Colfax, Blaine, and Keifer, or to Speakers like Kerr, Randall and Carlisle, to statesmen like Blaine, Elkins, Kellogg, Clayton, and Chandler, or to statesmen like Cleveland, Bayard, Thurman, Endicott, and Schurz?