THE NEW YORK PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals Upon the Most Important Topics of the Hour.

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The Conflicting Reports from the Southern

From the Times. In estimating the tone and temper of the Southern people it is unfair to consider them as a unit. We see on the one band, from the pens of Southern writers, rose-colored pictures of a new prosperity, based on enterprise, industry, and education, and destined to excel all the prestige of the past. But from other writers, and those mostly of the prominent and leading men of the South, we get only gloomy prophecies of a ruined agricultural and a debased social

The checuful opinions first-named come from the younger in years, the less established in life the representatives of the young South, who, while perhaps cordially sorry that the experiment of a Southern Confederacy has failed, are still unconsciously elated with the hopes that an absolutely tree government holds out to youth and energy. And again, the prophets of evil days are those who in any event have lost all that was most consolatory to their pride of family or estate, and who can see in the regene rated South only a "nation of shopkeepers," the loss of all that in their opinion gives dignity

Looking back to the old social position of the South, we find a landed aristocracy controlling its policy. Without formal titles of rank, they had all the essent als of a class nobility. They were the magnates of the land, holding the "poor whites" in a political subjugation designed to keep them ignorant and debased, and maintainthat subjugation by the strong contrast afforded by the condition of the enslaved blacks. Labor was tabooed as disgraceful; and without labor the lower classes of whites remained, socially the nominal equals, politically the seris,

of the great landowners. We do not expect to see this crushed aristo-cracy take the change good-naturedly. They are your true conservatives, and their eyes will always turn fondly to the faded glaries of the good old days of class legislation and class domination in social intercourse. The same devotion which the Cavaliers gave to "Charlie over the water' when the dread element of popular power dethroned the Stuarts of England, will, for the same reasons, be given by the great planters and statesmen of the South to the lost cause of

In England to-day, the dead Cobden and the living Bright and Stuart Mill are the inconoclasts of what remains of British aristocracy. Suppose that this English progressive element were suddenly, as has happened here, enabled to open the flood-gates and confer the rights of suffrage on the operatives and peasantry of the A few years of tempetuous debate would follow, perhaps a civil war, but in the end we should witness the destruction of the remains of feudalism, the overthrow of class legislation, the destruction of the Church establishment, and, at last, the breaking up of the great landed estates. Doubtless this would bring about a more healthful prosperity and a more truthful greatness for England, but generations would pass before the last Jeremiad over the good old times" of oppression and wrong would

By a parity of reasoning, we do not expect to see among the first families or the South any demonstrative or really sincere loyalty to the new Un on. They would destroy it it they could—but they cannot. It only remains to treat them fairly, and to indulge their little sulks and petulances. Human nature is too weak for such a sacrifice of all past and present prejudices as some of our radicals would to require. Why not let these old gentlemen drivel and gromble in their own highly respectable way? Men at the North, who are engaged in the very risky and not-at-all American busi-ness of "founding a family," will sympathize

with them—but nobody else will care.

It is our duty to see that nothing of the grand principle of the right of man to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," is abandoned. Honestly believing that we are acting for the best interests of the Southern masses, we can afford to be liberal to political old age and decrepitude. If the policy of that portion of the Southern press which is truly loyal would only recognize and profit by these evident antago nisms; if, instead of vague platitudes, they would fairly express the irrepre-sible conflict between class legislation and the "plain people;" it it would become the advocate of universal liberty. founded on universal education, and thus attract to the support of the Government the lower and more numerous classes, and build them up into an industrious and substantial middle estate, they would thus, by the operation of natural laws, and not by governmental tyranny, send home the wedge that would sunder forever the unnatural alliance between the landed aristocracy and the lower claeses of the

## Physical Suffrage.

From the Tribune. The question of colored suffrage-as for the sake of convenience we call it-must be discussed. Some soft-headed, rhallow, and violently fanatical men think to shovel it out of the way, as they thought to shovel slavery; but put it down as you will, and we expect to see it put down a good many times, it will presently come up again to vex us. We have jour opinions, but we do not pretend that they are infallible; and we are always glad to listen to what can be said upon the other side. Mr. Senator Davis, if we understand his remarks made in his place on the 16th instant, contends that blacks should not vote-

1. Because a foul odor exudes from their skin,
2. Because their heels make holes in the

We have thought over the matter with all possible care and gravity, but thus far we have been unable to discover what personal fragrance has to do with the right of suffrage. There was, true, an ancient notion that kings were naturally sweet-scented, and the courtiers of Alexander the Great told him that his body reminded them of violets-but we believe they lied, and Alexander, who was the best judge was of the same opinion. All we contend for fairness. There are in this city thousands of men to whom water, soap, and towels are unknown, or at least unusued luxuries—who though called white by courtesy, carry cuticles rimy with the accretions of years—who are therefore not pleasant to the nostrils of their nicer fellow-citizens; yet they not only vote but they vote often at the same election—they not only vote but they are voted for—they not only vote but they assault and batter those who do

not agree with them. What "exudes from their skins" we cannot say, though we are sure that it is not Balm of a Thousand Flowers, but that which, from morning to night, and so on until the next morning, goes into their skins, is of a compound flavor of camphene and alcohol, and though it may give them a strong, does not give them a dulcet breath. Suppose we should take the ground that there are and independent gentlemen ought to be excluded from the polls on account of their malodorous misfortunes, or rather faults? if you begin, where are you to draw the line? Are you to turn the election authorities into a smelling computee? Besides, there is no dis-puting of tastes. Some people like one smell, some another-some flavor the scent of garlic, while to others it is intolerable. By what standard shall we legally, constitutionally, and

we wish that Mr. Davis, who is a very learned man, had told us by what ratiocination he deduced the fact that long heels are incompatible with an intelligent and honest exercise of the right of suffrage. His speech would have been the most entertaining, erudite instructive, novel, fascinating, and unanswerable thing on

record since the great Slawkenbergius gave to the world his Theory of Noses. Dr. Gall judged men by cranjological protuberances, the good Lavater by facial lines; Dr. Davis goes plump down to the heel; he scrutinizes it, he compares it, he measures it, he criticizes it, and, glowing with patriotic science, he cries out that the liber-ties of the land will be endangered if the owner of such a misshapen, elongated, hole in the ground excavating heel is to be allowed to vote We bow with reverence to the dictam, but we do wish, such is human curiosity, that he had told

us the reason why. For a man does not think with his heel; he does not read with his heel; he does not ask questions with his heel; he does not unless he be heets over head, make up his mind by, with, or through his heel—not though it were a better heel than the heel of Achilles, and had been soused seven times in the St.x—a most involve rable, indefatigable, and minimize the Pavis refers to Cuyler, but we will wager whatever Davis pleases that not one word can be found in all the works of Cuvier upon the connection between long heels and the right of suffrage. These tancies are fascinating, but are they not a little dangerous? By and by who can insure us against it?—star-eyed science will be discovering perhaps that men with red hair, or with thin beards, or with bandy legs, are of 'an inferior race," unless indeed the red-haired, thinbearded, and bandy-legged men get the black-haired, bushy-bearded, and straight-legged men under, and cut them off from the felicities of

Mr. Davis does not see into what a topsy-turvy world he would introduce us, nor how, if these superfine objections were having their swing, he might be objected to for deficiency in personal beauty, though he may be the handsomest man in Congress for anything we know; but then the

ugly ones might bring ugliness into political shion, and put a change into the Constitution iverse to the shape of Dr Davis'shins, shapely as we shall suppose them to be, and beaut,ful as they are in the eyes of Dr. Davis' bootmaker, Yes, he might be objected to, and ejected from his seat Senatorial, though he cried out never so

ustily, "I, too, am a Circassian!"
But, perhaps, if a black were wealthy—and there have been wealthy ones-or if he were well-educated-and there have been such-or if he were not very black-and there have been "blacks" (begging his pardon) as white as the Doctor-perhaps if we could find such, who, after careful measurement of their neels and proper examination of their odor, turned out to be short and sweet, do you think our fastidious Senator would allow them to vote? We are atraid not. We are afraid, after all our trouble, he would come pounce upon us with lorty fresh arguments, and after all these were rejuted, that he would find forty more equally good. Where-fore we beg him to hold fast by his heel-and-odor theory, for, though good for nothing, it is as good as any which he is likely to exceptate.

## Beecher Proclaims the Gospel.

From the World. Mr. Beecher has been lecturing to crowded audiences in several cities of the interior. The first part of his address was a thoroughly New England view of the causes which led to the war-a contest, as he regarded it, with unalloyed liberty and intelligence on one side, and slavery and ignorance on the other. Between two such issues, a war of physical force was, he argued, inevitable. This position of his argument savored more of Mahommedan fatalism than of Christian hope. There was in it far too little confidence in temperate subjection to that true wisdom and sound statesmanship which is ever "\_\_\_\_ with good

Sti'l overcoming evil, and by small Accomplishes great things and worldly aims,"

By these means the path of progress would have been travelled more stowly, but we should have reached the mark more surely and more Many hundreds of thousands of livesnone know how many—would have been spared. We should have saved vast expenditures of that money which should be so contemptible a consideration in the hands of him who has plenty of it, but is so truly important to the daily laborer whose toil it represents, and who is now condemned to work longer for less tood, less clothing, and higher rents, and lower position in the social scale. The negro himself has not so far been profited by the sudden change. Mr. Beecher, we believe, expressed an opinion that ten years must elapse before the material condition But all these issues are those of the past. cannot recall them if we would. They are dead and have no life in them. "Let, then, the dead bury their dead." All legislation is for the future only, and it should profit by the experience and

lessons of the past. We have sincere pleasure in observing the moderation and prastical wisdom of Mr. Eccher on the real questions of the present times. It is true he still clings to certain pecuharly Yankee notions, more than we think is correct in reason or useful in its tendency. It certainly served his purpose with his audience to assure them of their great and remarkable intelligence. It is quite the common custom of legal advocates, in addressing a jury, to con-gratulate themselves publicly on having heaters so peculiarly intelligent. No other universal dodge endears a pleader so tenderly to the hearts of his hearers, and soothes their reason so gently into acquiescence with his appeals. So many men would rather be told they are shrewd, astute, and knowing than that they are honest, virtuous, or religious; but when Mr. Beecher ascribes the great prosperity of this nation to its "intelligence," without recognizing, by so much as one word, the immense resources which Providence, not our own 'cuteness or smartness, has placed at our disposal, he teaches men that "wisdom in their own concet" which is proverbially unfavorable to any high degree of in-

Mr. Beecher, we are sure, cannot fail to see the error of Sir Morton Peto, who, on his re-turn to Engtand, coolly advised the people of his native country to "imitate the resources" of the United States. It would be well, certainly. or that nation to manufacture a chain or two of lakes like those on our northern frontier. Its prosperity would be much increased by creating hree or four territories of rich land like Illinois two or three adequate and appropriate rivers, and a few hundred miles of Rocky Mountains full of gold and silver, and locating them in the middle of their little island. It would be well done if it were done quickly. Will any "intelligent" New Englander undertake the contract? it could be done either in France, Germany, or England, the prosperity of those countries would be greatly increased. And yet we have all these temporal blessings, and far more than these, to aid our prosperity, with little exercise of our own "intelligence," and far too often with at best a dim and imperfect recognition of the Superior Intelligence which made them all and gave them

But we cannot regard Mr. Beecher with any prejudice. We will not stop to inquire whether it is from sound reasons, the warmth of his own nature, or Christian principles, that he now heartly advocates the happiness, honor, and welfare of our common country, and wisely and honorably yields, in some degree, his own opinions and his own wishes, in certain particulars, to a better and stronger desire for the wel-

fare and genuine union of the nation.

Mr. Beecher boldly proclaimed his own desire for the extension of suffrage, not only to all men, but also to all women—meaning, of course, all women as well as men of every color, though this was implied rather than elaborately asserted in his discourse—believing the exclusion of the "gentler and purer sex" to be a relic of bygone and barbaric ages. The freedmen, too, should have all the rights of labor, rights of contract, civic rights, and the right of suffrage. "But," said Mr. Beecher, in one of his confidential and impressive whispers, "shall we just upon that Is it now too

"If I," said he, with one of those humorous shrugs and intonations which would have made shrugs and intonalions which would have made his fortune in another line of life which is not popular in New England, "had been President, I would have done differently," But as he would not be President, he would submit, for the sake of aiding the cause of peace and the welfare of the South. And then Mr. Beceber led off in one

of those generous and impassioned appeals which reach to the heart of every man who hears them, and has a true and honest heart within him.

He would have Georgia and South Carolina as prosperous as Massachusetts and New York ne would have liberty for the Southern white man; defeated in arms, he should be elevated and made prosperous and happy. Not, he thought, that the cause of universal suffrage should be surrendered; but let the freedman qualify himself more and more for the sacred privilege; let Ohio, also, where the colored man has no vote at all, Michigan, where he has no vote, and other Northern States where he has no vote, cleanse themselves thoroughly before they condemn the South. He would have no more shedding of blood, ro hanging, not even of Jeff. Davis, for political offenses; he would have a total cessation of strife; if we are to go on an hing all who have done wrong, where, he asked, would the executions cease?

He urged that it was not only necessary for the welfare of the nation that the North should be renerous, but that she should be so thoroughly and heartly in carnest in her generosity that the South could not help knowing and feeling the strength and purpose of her motives and her actions. He exerted the utmost power of his eloquence and vigor in support of these views. What, if he now and then struck wildly at the Democrats? It pleased him, and it does not

We are pleased to find so wholesome a change in public sentiment as to permit Mr. Beecher to express so many worthy and Christian senti-ments in Eric county, where poor Benedict, the village preacher among the Baptists, was imprisoned, and whence he was carried to Washington, in defance of all law, because he read and preached too literally from the text of the beautiful sermon once delivered on the Mount

The Meeting of the French Chambers-Waiting in Washington for the Speech of Napoleon on Mexico.

From the Herald, From our European news by the Asia it appears that the French Schate and Corps Legislatif had been summoned to assemble on the 22d January (last Monday), and that the opposition deputies had held a meeting at which "tuey had decided to direct their efforts chiefly to the Mexican question." At the same time, from information received from Washington, we infer that the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the House of Representatives will withhold any report or recommendation in reference to this Mexican controversy, until they shall have learned what the Emperor Napoleon has had to say to his Legislative Chambers upon this very important subject. It is generally believed that his speech will embrace the declaration of a purpose to abandon his imperial Mexican enterprise, and an expla ation to cover his refreat satisfactory to France. At all events, we have reason to anticipate that the receipt of the Em-peror's speech will be promptly followed by such action on the part of Congress as the occasion may seem to demand.

That the Emperor's speech will define a line of policy on his part satisfactory to our Government we have reason to believe from a rate signiticant leading article in the official Mondeur and from similar articles from other leading French journals and periodicals. The purpose of Napoleon thus suggested we find very broadly expressed in the Paris correspondence of the Inorgendance Beige of December 31, in which the writer say: -"We expect soon to see in the journals which are the recipents of governmental inspiration a note which may permit us to see, in no very distant future, the evacuation From the same authority it turther appears that "the highest circles" in Paris "are becoming enlightened as to Mexico and very ind gnant as to Maximilian, who is showing himsell at the same time both incapable and un-grateful to France, to whom he owes everything;" and that "it is even regretted that in th framing of his Government precedents rendered atl relations with Juarez impossible." The Freuch journals, it further appears, are quite disguster with the indifference and ingratitude of Austria, the Power most directly interested in Maximilian's adventure; but a Power which has given nothing towards his support, except an

occasional 'journalistic paragraph. All these are but straws, and yet they are sufficient to mark a decided change in the wind, and this change in reference to Mexico may involve a change of Louis Napoleon's policy in reference to Italy, the Pope, the Papal States. Venice, and Austria. It is evident that Austria regards with suspicion this Mexican present to Maximilian, that Napoleon begins to feel that t is a bad investment, and that Maximilian is doing all that he can to turn the tables upon his master, like the mock Prince of Como, with his extravagant presents and expenditures, addition to all these embarrassments, the Emperor of the French is called upon to determine how his texperimental empire in Mexico can be sustained when its recognition in any shape or form at Washington has been officially pro-nounced "impracticable." We cannot, therefore, resist the conclusion that, as Napoleon at Villa Franca made peace when the Italian war began to assume proportions beyond his original estimates, so now with his Mexican scheme, involving him in unlooked for complications, he will gracefully withdraw. We date say, indeed, that the two Houses of Congress, in waiting tor his anticipated announcement of this purpose,

are doing so upon official information. Meantime the Liberals in Mexico, having re duced their predatory warfare to something like a regular system of operations, continue to give Maximilian abundant employment. If he advances his troops to the extremities of his empire the Liberals are up in the interior, and playing the machiet even in the suburbs of his capital: as he withdraws his forces from the borders into the interior again, the Liberals reoccupy the country behind him. In fact, his authority in Mexico is finited to the places and roads occu-pled and commanded by his soldiers, and every exposed detacl ment is tiable at any moment to be cut off by the invisible but omnipresent Juarists. The Mexicans, through half a dozen generations, have been trained to this business. It is their normal condition. They have never

known anything else. Thus against twenty or thirty thousand French, Belgians, Turcos, and native renegaces, the Liberals can keep Maximilian busy for twenty years to come. The savage alternative of their extermination only makes the matter worse for Maximilian. Two hundred of his Belgians, taken prisoners, have protested against this barbarous system of revenge. They say that "they came to Meylco solely in order to act as a guard to our Princess, but whom you (Maximilian) have forced to fight against principle identical with our own;" and that, had the Libe rals is lowed the law of retaliation, their lives would have been sacrinced. "Brener," in behalf ot himself and fellow Belgian prisoners, in a remonstrance "to the representatives of the Belgian nation," published in a Liberal paper in the central State of Michoacan, calls upon them to intervene, and says that the Belgian desire to return home, that they have had enough of "this impurtous war," and he calls on the name of Belgium, whose honest conti-

dence has been abused," If such are the sentiments of Maximilian's originally devoted Belgians, it may be imagined that his French soldiers are not over-anxious to remain in his somewhat too dangerous and unprofitable service, and it may be supposed, too, that, apart from the great difficulty of the Monroe doctrine, the Emperor of the French has had enough of his German Emperor and empire over the Mexicans. The empire is a failure, and we expect in Napoleon's speech, which was doubt-less delivered on Monday to his legislative bodies. the announcement that the experiment is to be abandoned, with certain indemnit es to France. Regarding Louis Napoleon as a sagacious statesman, we can, as matters now stand, reach no other conclusion.

-Lewis Fisher, a fresco-painter, fell a distance of twenty-five feet in one of the Chelsea (Mass.) churches while at work a few weeks ago, and received injuries which have disabled him for life. The trustees of the church lately sent him a bill of seven dollars and sixty cents for damage sustained by the rews on which he teil! So says the Springfield Republican.

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Philadelphia November 15, 1885.
A writ of seize facias will be issued upon the above
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TO SHIP CAPTAINS AND OWNERS.—THE undersigned having leased the KENSINGTON SCREW DOCK, begs to more his friends and the patrons of the Dock that he is prepared with increases facilities to accommodate those having vesses to be raised or repaired and being a practical ship-carpenter and caulker, will give personal attention to the vessels entrusted to him or repairs.

Captains or Agents Ship Carpenters, and Machinists having vessels to repair, are solicited to call.

Having the agency for he sale of "Wetterstedt's Patent Metallic (emposition" for Copper Paint for the propervation of vessels' bostoms for this city, I am prepared to urraish the same on invorsible terms.

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THE RESIDENCE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY.

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES THE FIRE IN CHESNUT STREET Letter from Wells, Fargo & Co.

\$10,000 SAVED IN HERRING'S PATENT SAFE.

PHILADBEPHIA, January 2, 1900. MESSES FARREL, HERRING & Co .- Gentlemen :- We have just opened our Nafe, one of your manufacture, which passed through the destructive fire in Chemut street last night. The fiafe was in our office, No. 601, which building was entirely destroyed. The Safe was in a warm place, as you may well suppose, and was red hot when taken out of the embers. We are well satisfied with the result of this trial, and find our books, papers, and some ten thousand doltars in money almost as par fect as when put in the Safe. Nothing is injured, if we except the eather bindings of the books, which are steamed: the money and papers are as good as ever.

Truly yours. WELLS, FARGO & CO., Per J. H. COOK. Agent. The above Safe can be seen at our store

FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 CHESNUT \*TREET.

SEVERE TEST OF MARVIN'S SAFE At Charleston Fire, October 18, 1865.

"After removing my safe (one of Marvin & Co.'s Patent) from the ruins, where it had lain for Eight is an aperico state of preservation. I express my delight and entire eatisfaction with the result and heartily advise all to purchase Marvin & Co.'s pages.

(Signed) A full assortment of the above SAFES, the only per-

feetly dry, as well as thoroughly fire-proof ones in the market, for sale by MARVIN & CO., No. 721 CHESNUT STREET.

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No. 265 BROADWAY, N. Y. Dwelling House Sases, ornamental styles. Safes of other makes taken in exchange. Send for descriptive circular.

ANOTHER TEST HERRING'S FIRE-PROOF SAFES. THE FIERY ORDEAL PASSED TRIUMPHANTLY

The Herring Sale used in the office of our warehouses, destroyed by the disastious fire of the hight of the 5th mistant, was subjected to as intense heat as probably any sare will ever be subjected in any fire—so intense that the trans knobs and mountings of the exterior of some were melted off, and the whole surface scaled and blatered as if it had been in a furnace, and yet whom corned the centents—books and papers—were found to be entire and unmjured.

This Sale is now on exhibition in our warehouse on Seventh street, with the books and papers attil remaining in it just as it was when taken from the ruins. Marchants Bankers, and others interested in the protection of their books and papers are invited to call andus amine it.

Agent for Herring's Sales,

1.1 No 558 SEVENTH St., Washington, D. G.

PERSONAL.

GREAT REDUCTION IN COFFEE, AT WILSON'S Tea Warehouse, No. 236 CHESNUT

30 CENTS.-ROASTED RIO COFFEE, AT WILSON'S Ten Warehouse, No. 296 CHESNUT 35 CENTS,—BEST ROASTED RIO COFFEE, at WILSON'S, No. 206 CHESNUT Street. 40 CENTS-FINEST OLD JAVA, ROASTED, at WILSON'S, No. 226 CHESNUT Street.

70 CENTS.—BLACK AND GREEN TEA SIFT-WILSON'S. G OOD DOLLAR TEA, BLACK AND GREEN, at WILSON'S, No. 296 CHESNUT Street. TEAS AND COFFEES AT WHOLESALE prices, at WILSON'S Tea Warehouse, No. 230 CHESNUT Street.

TEAS, &o.

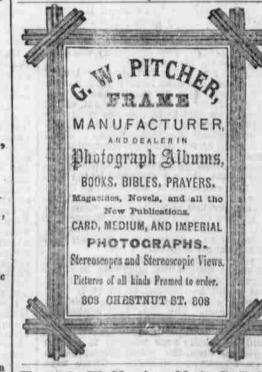
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