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

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The Revolution in the Danubian Principalities. From the Tribune

The state of Europe is not likely to be as pa. cific during the year 1866 as it was during the preceding year. The January insurrection in Spain has already been followed by a February revolution in the Danubian Principalities. This second revolutionary attempt has been attended by greater success than the first. The Prince was on the 23d of February surprised by the insurgent troops in his palace, taken prisoner, and forced to resign. On the same day the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies proclaimed the Count of Flanders, brother of the King of the Belgians, Prince of Boumania, under the name of Fhilip I. The Count of Finaders, however, at once, declined the honor, and the country is likely to remain for some time without a head.

The future Government of the northern pro-vinces of Turkey constitutes one of the most difficult complications of European politics. Twelve years ago this question led to the Crimean war, and every new revolutionary outbreak in Turkey is a subject of protownd concern to European diplomatists, who are well aware that the conflict between the interests of Russia, Austria, France, and England is as to the spoils of Earo pean Turkey, which is doomed to inevitable dis memberment, and may at any time lead again to a great European war. To ward off this danger, a conference between the powers which signed the treaty of Paris is said to have already been agreed upon.

Present Aspect of the Mexican Question. From the Times.

It is over five years since foreign intervention began its work in Mexico, and nearly three years since the Archduke Maximilian of Austria was proclaimed Emperor by the "Assembly of Notables" convened at the City of Mexico. Three years is a very long time for a Mexican Government of any sort to sustain itself in any fashion. It is true that it has been upheld by foreign power and mercenary bayonets, by French loans and French management; and it is true that from the beginning Juarez and the loyal republicans have never ceased to protest against it in words and by arms. But still the Imperial Goverament has gone on extending and consolidating itself in a remarkable manner. It dominates at this time all the more populous States of the late republic, and nearly all the Mextcan military and political leaders have given in their adhesion to it.

The condition of things in Mexico for the last half year has been more peaceful than at any previous time since the intervention. There has been no fighting anywhere worthy of being chronicled. Even the numerous guerilla skirmashes of which we used to have accounts by every mail, seem to have all but come to an end: and the robbery of a train now and then is all there is to remind us of the old order of things. Many of the best republicans have evidently given up in despair. They have seen the appa-rent hopelessness of their attempts to expel the imperial power-to regain possession of the lost States, clines, and strongholds-to battle with European troops and foreign gold-to gain back their deserted leaders, or to re-establish their lest power. For a long time they were sus-tained in their struggles by the prospect of aid from the Government or people of the United States

They knew the strength and vigor of our protests against the foreign intervention; they knew the strength of the popular feeling against Maxi-milian; they heard with joy the expressions of our great Generals in their behalf, and knew that similar sentiments animated a great portion of our army. Their hopes were greatly magai-fied when last summer they saw the concentration of our troops slong the Rio Grande, and

rupt our friendly relations with France will not

be carried any further. John Stuart Mill in the House of Commons. From the Times.

The news last summer that the greatest living thinker and philosopher on political economy had been requested to stand for Parliament, was received by the thinking public of this country with the deepest interest. John Stuart Mill is known in every cellege and academy throughout the United States, and his scattered writings of late years on matters connected with government, or on the more abstract field of metaphy sics, have been read with the closest attention by many who knew his standard works only as textbooks of a college course. The remarkable clearness, candor, and breadth of his intellect have impressed every American reader. As a philesophical radical of the highest culture, he ass been enabled to present to all readers theories or aspects of social and governmental ques-tions which would hardly be listened to from gnv one els

His reply to the nomination by the electors of Westminster, and his speeches in the canvass, added to the interest with which his first entry in political life was watched on this side of the Atiantic, They seemed to announce almost a new era in the Parliamentary His of England. A candidate accepting a nomination, but retain ing to pay election expenses, on the ground that he should save for the public interest, not for his own, and declining to attend to local measures, or to bind himself as to his position, never covering for an instant his extreme and radical views (as, for instance, his admission of a woman's speech in St. James Hall, and his denunciation of the "Irish Church") utterly re-fusing to use any of the tricks or countenance the profilgate expenditures customary in English elections, was certainly a novel pheno-menon in the political sky of England. We could not believe that an English consti-

tueney were enlightened enough to elect such a candidate. His remarkable success in the elec tion was a surprise to all here who watched the event. During the last month Mr. Mill has made his first appearance in Parliament.

Those who know him personally never had a doubt of his moral and intellectual success. No one could be more ready in debate, clever in repartee, or clear in statement. He is evidently accustomed to argument, and is fluent almost to a fault. His mind has always been occupied with just those points which come up before a body like Parliament - questions of practical administration, of economy and retorm. His views are perfectly wrought out and clear on all the great subjects likely to be presented. Inen he has that qualification-to which we are so accustomed in American political life, as the best quality of a popular speaker or leadercertain generosity, if not charity, of sontiment. Mr. Mill-austract thinker and thorough rermer sa he is-is well kuowa here as a most refined gentleman and generous friend. He has in him the mental capacity of an erator; that arm sympathy with heroism and the dire of indignation against oppression and wrong which so elien inspire the highest filefus of oratory. His only delect may be in his want of practice in public speaking. Even this, however, may be overcome. But whether he shine as an ora-tor or not, his acute and searching thought must always be feit on most questions discussed or referred to committees by Parliament. The accounts we receive thus far of his utter-

ances in Paritament folly justify all the expectations of his friends here. It must have needed the courage of a true reformer, for an English member, in the full face of a Fenian revolution, to have given his vote, with a few frish memers, in tavor of a genuine effort at redressing he abuses of the Irish system.

To speak with feeling of the wrongs of Jamaica when the whole Parliament was aroused against the rebeliion of Ireland, may be a mistake in the view of the Ropaut critical classes of Lon-don; but it was a protest which Mr. Mill owed to

That he should have changed a Government bill (that of determining the rate of insurance for entitle killed by the plague) by his first speech, was what one might expect from a mind which had devoted so much labor to similar questions. His orgument with Mr Lowe, that the tax ought to fall-not on the consumers, but on the cattleowners-was unanswerable; and yet he was beaten, as might be expected, by a body made op to so harge a begree by underes and owners of cattle. His first attack on the aristocracy made with the utmost courtesy, though with the keenest rapier. It of course renders him unpoputur in an aristocratic body, and we shall hear all the organs of this day try to throw contempt on this "philosopher in Parliament" But Mr. Mill has a place which should not be vacant in that body. The Liberals need such a scholar and vitic in their ranks. Mr. Bright's sledge-hammer lows will have a most efficient aid in the keen thrusis of his intellectual ally. And when the great question of reform comes up, England will feel the value of having so neute a thinker and rational a reformer among her legislators.

When we have laid out of the discussion all these excepted classes, we have but a small minerity of the laboring population of this country left; and of this small minority, those only have an abiding interest in the eight-hour estion, who do not expect to rise out of the lass of mere operatives to that of masters of their own business. Those who have enterprise and energy to work their way up to be their own employers, will be more inclined to ask how they can carn the most wages than how they can work the fewest hours. All reasoning on this subject is beside the question, which is not confined to those laborers who expect to spend their life at work for hire, paid by the day or

hours a day than the great mass of the laboring population? If this is a correct statement of the question, it answers itself. Justice requires that those who perform the least labor shall re-ceive the smallest share of its products. If a majornty of laborers work ten or twelve hours a day, and the minority only eight, the latter should receive proportionally less compensa-tion; is other words, they should be paid only in preportion as they produce. Their lack of energy to rise out of the condition of hired laborers, proves a necessity for making up by diligence what they want in enterprise and ability. If they educate their children, or lay by a provision for the decrepitude of old age, it must come out of the surplus they can save from mere wages. If they work less than the great body of laborers, they will carn less, receive less, save less, have less. It is their true in-terest, in the fleeting years of their best vigor, to earn much, save something, and rise, if pos-sible, to the more independent condition of selfemployed laborers. We cannot think it for the advantage of the only class likely to demand the eight-hour system, that their hours of coil should be reduced below those of the other and more considerable portion of the laboring community.

Those who desire the eight-hour system say that the time thus saved is wanted for intellectual cultivation. A creditable object, deserving the warmest encouragement 1 But mere desultory reading is not mental culture; on the contrary, it is, if too much indulged, mental dissipa-tion and a source of mental debility. The great acquisition, whether for scholar or for laborer, is a steady, robust, energetic will, the foundation of all excellence, moral and intellectual. The cholar needs it to give him complete control of his attention, to enable hum to direct the whole force of his mind to the things it is his business to understand, and to result the seductions of that simless curiosity in which many a well-endowed mind wanders and wastes itself.

All nen need it to give them that command of the appetites and passions which is a chief aim of moral culture. But this great faculty-a poweriol and energetic will-is precisely the thing in which the eight-hour men are most likely to be developt. It is the want of it which forbids them to appire to a better condition than that of hired labovers. Nothing would cultivate it more than the ambition to work, and save, and rise. If such people had six hours a day for mental culture, they would probably waste them (like the mob of so-called scholars) in aimless reading. The intellect is improved only in proportion as it acquires the capacity to form exact and independent judgments on the subjects that come before it; and, as a general rule, great readers bestow a transient attention on so many things that they have no power or precision

on any. In feedal times the great landed proprietors gratified their vanity by supporting multitudes of idle retainers. When manufactures and com-merce furnished them with other channels of expense, their retainers went to reinforce the laborers. But that exchange of leisure for labor was no loss. If society could divest itself of the artificial wants acquired in the last four centu-ries, half of eight hours' labor a day would supply all its needs. But it society had taken that direction, its intelligence would not have been improved by the resulting bisure. The best proof of the intelligence of the artican class is e skilt exhibited in their products; a skill for which there would be no place it society had not the artificial wants which it is the chief office of skilled labor to supply. In proportion as these wants become more refined there is a greater domand for skill, and a higher develop-ment of the faculties of the artisan class. wards similess, desultory reading, but towards the higher grades of industrial skill. Let ample time be given to the educations and the state of the second The aspirations of laborers should not be to derly and exact studies, training their minds to aleriness, and imbuing them with a love o beauty and grace. Among minds opened by such culture, there would be an active competition for the employments requiring intellect and skill. The state of the arts and the condition o the artisan would improve together. All public and social duties would be more intelligently discharged by minds thus developed, than would ever be possible by those whole only mental culture consisted in skimming through books selected for nevelty and read from idle curiosity; which, we suppose, describes the intellectual cultivation sought by a majority of those who would take the benefit of the eight-hour system.

cannot doubt its truth. We hope this will prove statistic to the most impatient, and that the maleious efforts to dis-

to note on to a preponderance of power that erabled it to keep down these elements in the State likely to thwart hs will. All sense of the rights of others, all modera-tion in council, all patriotic purposes were gone. Faction, short-sighted, insolent, mean, ruled the State, and freedom had already perianed. No tyrainy was ever more oppressive that this of the Legislature transcending its power. From this tyrainy to that of Marius was a short stop, and it even seemed to the people like an alleviation of misery. Again, to Sylia and to Pompey was only a change of isctions, and it seemed only another change of the same character when Casar established the empire on the ruins of Roman freedom. Thus, when the first step is taken, all the rest are easy. We see the same sequence of events in the

great rebellion in England, when the grand struggle of a people for freedom, perverted by faction, resulted only in the establishment of new tyranny. There also the necessities of the people compelled them to set aside the Consti-tution. By the execution of Charles the Constitution was dissolved, and the Parliament became a supreme power. It did not hold its power for the public good, ready to relinquish it when the public good should require. It did not andeavor to settle the peace of the country on a perma-nent constitutional basis. It seemed determined to perpetuate its virtual sovereignty. Guided by faction only, it ignored the great truth that every day that it kept the country in that unset-

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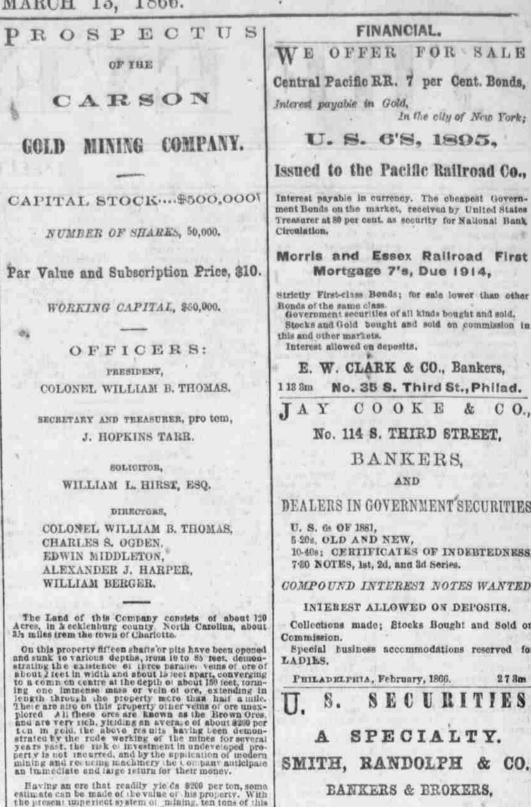
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tied state was a day of danger. It ruled more oppressively than the King had done. Then Cromwell selzed the supreme power, and the great straggle for freedom failed in the very hour of its success. It was the same in France. The Constitution was thrown away by the revolution, and the Convention, by its Committee of Safety, ruled with the most horri-ble affluence of despotic barbarity. Turn by the various factions, the country lay prostrate, ready to become the prey of any one bold enough to seize the sovereign nower. Such was the posi-tion when the Directory, the last of the govern-ing factions, was displaced by Napoleon, and the struggle that France had made for liberty served only to crown an adventurer. Our own situation is the same as that shown

in these instances. Our constitution, limited in its operation by the necessitias of war, is practically set aside by the party that rules in Congress. Congress has before it but the one øbvious duty of re-establishing the operation obvious dury of re-establishing the operation of the law for a state of peace. It ignores or denies this duty. It insists upon holding on to this dangerous power, insists that the Constitu-tion is suspended, even superseded, and pro-pases new plans. We have therefore a reign of faction, and not of law, and in this condition any event is possible. The only hope of the nation lies in the character of the people. They are more intelligent than the people of other are more intelligent than the people of other nations, and their influence on the Government is more direct. They only can prevent us from sliding into the despotism of faction, to be fol-lowed by the despotism of some individual party leader. They, through the elections, must signally rebuke the despotic spirit in party leader. which Congress now plays the dictator, or the inevitable consequences of this Congressional suspension of the Constitution will be the destruction of our freedom.

How Canada can get out of her Trouble. From the Herald.

Botween the intense ferment created by the hobgoblin of Fenianism, the abrogation of the Reciprocity treaty, and the monarchical dodge of confederation, our poor Canadian neighbors are in the midst of a sea of troubles. Their leading men are pestering the people about politics and reciprocity, and their invincible militia are in arms ready to hurl back to American shores any body of Femans who may attempt to invade the sacred soil of Canada. Now there is a very easy method by which our provincial cousins can be relieved of their Fenian afflictions, may be made to cease grumbling about reciprocity and to abate their lealousy and irritation about confederation. Let Caunda come into the American Union. We have a seat for her in our republic; for at the adoption of the original articles of confederation



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when they saw in command of the Department of the Gulf a distinguished officer, who made no secret of his cagerness to find an opportunity to draw his sword to once of Manager bissed away before the close of last year.

They discovered that the fixed policy of our Government was such as to forbid us undertak ing a war in their behalf; and that though we strongly sympathize with the cause they reprosented and the political principles they our Government would have to be allowed to evercise its own indgment as to the course it should pursue, and its own discretion as to the time and method of pursuing it. Their discouragement on this discovery was as great as their expectations had been previously, and since then they have done but little in the way of self-vindication against their too powerful enemy. Their future prospects we fear are anything

but hopeful. They can see no more than we can, any way by which they can extricate Mexico from the foreign yoke. There is no more prospect of raising an army or of raising money next year, than there is a possibility of doing so new; and many are becoming so much accustomed to the present order of things that their action is continually becoming less energetic.

and their protests more feeble. We do not believe that Maximilian could sustain himself without French aid, but it is evident that he has less need of it now than he had a year ago. There being scarcely any organized milligry opposition in any quarter, all the object for which troops are needed is the preservation of order, and small garrisons stationed at the principal points are sufficient for that purpose. The old leaders of anarchy having become attached to the throas from motives that never before bound them to any cause, they will be more likely to adhere to it for selfish purposes. Maxim lian has already in his employ a respectable, force of Mexican troops, under European officers, and with the Belgian contingent and the troops he is promised from Austria, his throne may be upheld for a time though the French army were all out

As to the Emperor Napoleon's promise to withdraw this army, we have seen no reason whatever to doubt its execution in due season. On the contrary, there are the best of reasons to believe its infilment, and that before the close of the current year. The Evening Post, how-ever, is still excessively impatient about the matter. Its urgency can brook no delay what-ever. It reopened the subject the other evening, after having taken thirty days, according to its own computation, to consider the article pub-lished in the Timos on receipt of the Emperor's speech promising evacuation. It demands of "now that a whole month has elapsed"what has become of the Emperor's agreement to withdraw from Mexico, which, thirty days ago, formed such a splendid consummation to Mr. Seward's diplomacy, and gave to this country such "assurance of peace."

such "assurance of peace." We suppose this question is intended to be what the Transcendentalisis call a "sockdolo-ger;" but, in the same lingo, we might reply that we "don't see it." Thirty days is not a very great length of time, even though it be charac-terized as a "whole month." The Emperer did not promise to witheraw his army in thirty days; and we do not think it would be giving him too much to let him have twice or three him too much to let him have twice or three that time in which to consummate his declared purpose. We will relieve the anxiety of the Post, however, by telling it that we find an announcement in a number of the Patrie, which has lately come to hand, that the first contingent of 5000 men of the French expeditionary force are already under orders to come home, and will arrive in France from Mexico in the month The withdrawal of two other bodies June. of equal strength will leave Mexico clear of French soldiers, and will leave Maximilian to work out his own selvation-give up his alven-ture as a bad job. The Patric gives the regiments that are to return first, and repeats the

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The Eight-Hour System.

From the World.

The question of reducing the hours of daily

labor to eight has, for some time, occupied associations of workmen, and it engages more or less of the attention of the press. In discussing this question it will conduce to clearness if we exclude from consideration all those classes of laborers who have no interest in the subject. If the hours of labor are reduced, it will not be by legislation, but by the control exerted by the various leagues of artisans over their own members. They will succeed, if at all, by the same methods by which such associations pressure the enhancement, or prevent the reduction, of their wages. Being a question between employers and employed, we may lay out of view, in discussing it, all those classes of Inborers who are their own employers; happily, in this country, by far the greater number.

The bulk of our laboring population consists of men who cultivate, with their own hands, their own modest farms, and of mechanics who ewn and work in their own shops-a condition more invotable to independence, self-respect, and character, than any other. The eight-hour question does not concern them. They can, at their pleasure, work eight hours or fourteen. They are not likely to puzzle themselves, or perplex others, as to whether as much labor can be done in the shorter as in the longer period. In all cases where the employer and incorer are the same person, this point needs no elucidation. In seed time, and in the harvest searon, farmers will tool from sumrise till dark, making the most of their time to offset interruptions by had wea-ther. For reasons equally strong, they will always work more hours in summer than in win-With a majority of the mechanics who own. their own shops, the pressure of customers is brisk at some seasons, slack at others; and they naturally do their utmost when the demands upon them are urgent. A men who owns a team, or possesses costly implements and machiners, cannot very well afford to let them stand idle aixteen hours out of the twenty-four; and he must prolong his own labor to keep them in motion

Besides the large classes now described, we must exclude, as having no interest in the eight hour question, the multitude of employed arti-rans who do what is called place work. Produc-tion, not time, being the measure of their compensation, they need no assestances to deter-mine, each for himself, bow many hours it is expedient for them to work. In all employments which afford scope for varying degrees of energy or experime s, it is for the interest of good workmen to be paid by the piece, and for the interest of the indolent or less skilful to be paid by the day. In such cases, the equal pay-ment of all by the day is a premium on incapa-pacity. In addition to employed artisans who work by the piece, we must also exclude sallors, whe can stickle for no hours, but must conform to the exigencies of the voyage; house and hote servants; draymen and other teamsiers; railroad announcement with such assurance that we | operatives; soldiers, and several other classes

Suspending the Constitution-The Danger of the Republic.

From the Herold.

Every Radical member of Congress has a new plan of government for the United States in his pocket, or has offered one to the House. Judging from the proceedings in Congress "alone, from the view taken of the country by the Radical party, we might suppose it was in the condition that France was in when a new constitution was suggested every day, and a new one adopted once a fortnight. When the National Assembly trampled the ancient monarchy under foot, and sat to trame a constitution, France was not more completely adrift with re peet to organic law than we seem to be now (ii) the pitiful theorists, all the malignant fanatics, all the corrupt schemers, have substitutes to offer for the Constitution framed by the fathers the Republic, and still venerated by the peo Nearly lifty so-called amendments have n proposed. If only half of these were ceen adopted, the true Constitution would be buried under the superimposed rubbish, its powers for good would be negatived by greater powers for evil, and the distinctive character of the Government would be lost.

What is the simificance of all these proposed amendments? Is the Constitution really sus-pended or set aside? That is the position of the radical faction, and they act on it. And as this faction rules, it is a practical fact that the Constitution is set as de so far as the action of Con-gress goes. This is the issue between Congress and the President. The President, ilko another Cato, adheres to the republic-stands by the Government that has carried the country safely through so many years; and the factions, finding the full operations of the Constitution Interrupted by the war, eager to hold on to the power given by that interruption, assume that the Con-stitution is set aside, and endeavor to force upon the country systems more suitable to their fac tions purposes.

No point in our history has been more dan gerous than this; and we may see the real extent of this danger by comparing our position with analogous ones in the history of other nations. Rome, England, and France, inexhaustible exples of political evils, show us how, in cases like the present, freedom falls a victim to the violence of faction. Rome, under the republican system, had passed through a period of un-paralleled growth and grandeur. Her governent was then tested tremendously by the Punic Macedonian, and Spanish wars. It was shaken in those struggles. They disturbed that nice equilibrium of powers which is the glory and the safety of free government. There was a great increase in the power of the Senate.

That was the first change in the Constitution. and it opened the door to all others, because the Legislature, corrupt, arrogant, thirsty for power, would not permit the Senste to retrace that dan-forced by the occasions of war; but it was dan gerous-an evil-and ought not to have outlived

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the Union. We will treat her kindly. We will even pay her debts. She shall sit at our festive heard and partake of the bountiful leasts which the great republic is ever ready to offer to a free and loyal people. Canada will thereby become elevated, dignified, and powerful. She will have no further fear of raids, or of retallation for having turnished a harbor for land pirates and Rebels, as in the case of the St. Albans piracy. In short, she will, instead of being a paltry, isolated province, with nothing to hope for from the home Government, but in continual danger of punishment for the international crimes of the mother country, be placed under the protec-tion of the broad shield of the Union, and share in our prosperity and glories. There could be a better time for the Canadians to pronounce for annexation than the present; and once as complished, a perfect panacea will be applied to all their internal troubles and dangers. Come along, Canada.

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