WELL IN SERSO THE RESERVE THE SERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE BAY. OTHERS & ISSUE

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EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH

General Dix and the French Mission. From the Herald.

It is understood that General Dix assumes the charge of the Naval Office of this port for a month or two, and that then he will take upon himself the duties of the mission to France-a simple solution of the problem, how is he to fill both these desirable offices? It further appears that for this appointment to France he is indebted to the Secretary of State, a fact which is somewhat remarkable when it is remembered that the views of General Dix on the Mexican are, or at least have been, in direct antagonism to the masterly inactivity and soothing system

or Mr. Seward. The question naturally follows, therefore, how pappens it that General Dix should be selected by Mr. Sewars at this crisis as the man of all men for the mission to Brance? We conclude that, from the unsatisfactory results of his soothing system, and from the pressure of public opinion, Mr. Seward has become convinced that a more positive and decisive policy is demanded to meet this case of Napoleon's Mexican usurpstion. But whatever may have been the notives of Mr. Seward in this appointment, we are at liberty to accept it as the turning over of a new leaf, and the opening of a new chapter in our toreign rela-tions, and that General Dix's arrival in Paris will very soon be followed by Maximilian's departure from Mexico, unless, from the force of circumstances beyond bis control, poor Max may be constrained sooner to pack up and turn from the perilous "Halls of the Montezumas" to rejoin his amiable Empress in their more com-fortable and peaceable chateau on the Adriatic, When General Santa Anna and Mr. Roberts make up a coalition of Mexican Liberals and fighting Irish Fenians for the expulsion of the foreign intruder from the soil of Mexico, the thing will be done regardless of the policy of Mr. Seward: but if it be true that Mr. Seward is also a party to this coalition, then, indeed, we may rejoice at the change which has come over him. What a feather in his cap it will be to find that his blandishments towards Louis Napoleon and his flunkeyism towards England have been abandoned for a vigorous and decisive American foreign policy!

The wise states man shapes his course to the course of events, and if circumstances demand it his invorte theory or grand ideal of yesterday is to-day abandoned. So we would apply the change indicated in the policy of the foreign department at Washington to the domestic policy of the Administration. Tenacity to a grand idea is a good thing; but when it has manifestly become a hopeless enterprise, it is not only the part of prudence but of true hero-ism to abandon it. The Bourbons were hurled from power in France because they could not at last be made to learn anything or to forget

anything. The marvellous success of Louis Napoleon. on the other nand, is mainly due to the fact that, with all his "grand ideas," he has care-fully noted the drift of passing events, and has advanced or fallen back or stood still in this or that undertaking as the developments of the day encouraged or admonished him. This is the policy for the Administration. Gratified to believe that Mr. Seward, in adopting it, is about to change his system of diplomacy from soft soap to sulphur, if necessary, we still entertain the hope that the Administration will in season adapt not only its foreign but its domestic policy to the inevitable course of events as marked in the drift of the ruling public opinion

The Imperial Manifesto. From the Tribune.

We published yesterday the text of the circular which the Marquis de Lavalette, ad interim | school of politicians after the Convention. They Mmister for Foreign Affairs, has addressed to the diplomatic agents of France. We received an abstract of the circular two days after its publication in the Meniteur-on the 19th of September-and on that occasion presented our views on the subject, in which now, when the full text of the circular is before us, we find nothing to change and but little to add to.;

The manifesto of the French Government-for this character the circular undoubtedly bas—is emphatically pacific in its professions. It expressly undertakes to allay the excitement of public opinion in France by arguing that in the important changes which have recently taken place in Europe there is nothing at which the French people have the remotest reason to feel "For France, with Algeria," it says, will soon number 40,000,000 inbabitants, Germany 37,000,600, Austria 35,000,000, Italy 26,000,000, Spain 18,000,000." France, therefore, will continue to rank all these States in point of population, and has no reason for being alarmed.

The circular, on the contrary, finds some obvious advantages in the new arrangements, Heretotore the Holy Alliance united all the peoples of Europe from the Ural to the Rhine against France. There was no nation in Europe, with the exception of Spain, with which it was possible for France to contract an alliance. Now the spirit of the Holy Alliance is broken. Prussia having adopted the nationality princi-ple, of which heretofore France has been the only champion, has become the natural friend and ally of France. The same holds good, to a still higher degree, of Italy. Austria, relieved of her Italian and German leanings, has no longer any interests contrary to those of France. The disappearance of secondary States the circular looks upon as the result of an irresistible power, and, in view of Russia and the United States, each of which may within the next hun-dred years count a hundred million of men, it thinks it not for the interest of the nations Central Europe to remain broken up into little States without either force or public spirit.

The latter part of this circular extols the glorious mediation of France in the late war, and points out as the mission of France in Europe "to strengthen the accord between all those powers which desire at one and the same time to maintain the principle of authority and to favor progress." The opinion which, both in France and abroad, prevails of the signal failures of the Napoleonic policy during the last six rears, will hardly be improved by this part of the manifesto. But it is impossible to deny that there is a great deal of truth in the former part. By raising the standard of the German nationality, Prussia has formally broken with the spirit which established the Hely Alliance, and entered at least into an alliance with the democratic principle of popular and national sovereignty

The Prussian Government cannot now retreat; it must carry through the work once commenced, and how can it carry through its task without new attacks upon the divine right of some of the princes? The views of the old King and Court Bismark about monarchism and demo cracy have probably undergone but little change, but both have shown on several recent occasions that they fully comprehend the impossibility of completing the task without the hearty sympathy of the Liberal party. As long as Germany is not fully united there is no danger of Prussia uniting again with Russia and Aus-

tria for the establishment of a Holy Alliance.

The remarks of the circular on the impending disappearance of the secondary States in Europe are equally true. Whether it is just or unjust, better for the people of the secondary States or worse, the fact is undeniable that they are altogether at the mercy of their powerful neighbors, that they are even now hardly sovereign, and that they will cease to exist whenever the great powers can come to an agreement concerning them. It would certainly be a great guarantee to the future peace of Europe if, with regard to these powerless States, the principle were generally adopted that none of them should be annexed to a larger State against the out-

spoken will of the inhabitants.

We believe, therefore, that the former part of 1 the manifesto contains words which are caps ble of a right construction, and which would faithfully carried out, be conducive to the preservation of peace in Europe. But neither France nor Prussia have thus far awakened and sincerity of their official professions.

The Question of Fidelity-Who Are the Unfaithful! From the Times.

The charge of bad faith under which Demoeratic journalists endeavor to hide their own violation of the compact entered into at Philadelphia, is echoed with apparent honesty by some of our Southern contemporaries. "Con servative Republicans," they say, "have de ceived us with the Philadelphia Convention, and then betrayed us by abandoning that movement after committing us to it " To establish the injustice of the accusation, it is only necessary to reconsider the facts of the case on which it is made to rest.

As between the Northern parties to the Convention there is really no room for controversy. From the very outset, there was a distruct understanding that the meeting of Republicans and Democrats on a common platform did not involve any essential change in the ordinary party relations of either. It was an extra-party ceasion-an occasion on which, for a certain defined national purpose, positicians consented to forego their partisanship, and to co-operate without reference to prst or prospective alli-

The earliest possible restoration of the Union was recognized as an object that justified the sacrifice of personal ambition and the surrender of old prejudices: the pivot of the movement being an implied agreement that so long as this object remained quartained, more party questions should be held in abeyance. On this basis the Convention was organized and worked. And its success was attributable to the admirable temper and judgment with which the principle of compromise and party abacyation

was adhered to.
Obviously, the same spirit should have actu ated the members and professed friends of the Convention in the after-stages of the movement, Harmony at Philadelphia could amount to but little unless it were the prelude to harmony in the States which were to be the theatre of the pending canvass. The conditions under which life was breathed into the movement required the continuance of an unselbsh, patriotic spirit in the management of local campaigns. Had it been declared beforehand that in New York or elsewhere the Democrats were to assume control of gatherings called in the interest of National Union, and were to regulate the nominations with an avowed regard to their party conveni-ence and benefit, the programme at Philadelphia would have been entirely changed, and the result entirely different.

The charge of bid faith, then, is applicable to he Democratic section of the Philadelpula Convention, and in no degree to the conservative Republicans. The latter have a right to be complainants in the premises; for while prepared to carry out stead as ly the terms adopted at Philadelphia by subordinating party to national considerations, they found the Democrats intent upon prostituting the National Union movement to the uses of their old party organizations. zation. And when, by a resort to agencies and neans which we care not now to characterize, the Democrats acquired the mastery for their own party, the conservative Republicans, who up to that time had adhered taithfully to the project matured at Philadelphia, were constrained to leave Democracy to their devices and the deteat that awaits them. No other course was open without a forfeiture of self-respect, and becoming participators in a breach of faith as discreditable as it will be dis-

For this after-play, perhaps, we ought to have been prepared. Perhaps we erred in ever sup-posing that journals like the World would adere faithfully to the terms of the Philadelphia Convention, whose proceedings they so signally failed to control. Perhaps the course of the World prior to the Convention might have been held to foreshadow the treachery of the World had contended, remember, that as a matter of right and necessity it should be to all intents and purposes a Democratic Assembly, with conservative Republicans as admitted but uninfluential guests. The fact that these anticipations were not realized, and that the moderation and good reeling of the Southern delegates secured prominence and influence to the class whom the World had all but proscribed, was probably as surprising as it was mortifying to the politicians who more recently gained the upper hand at

A reference to the columns of the World will show this beyond doubt. Our contemporary hardly knew how to conceal its chagrin; and though compelled by the pressure of circum-stances to endorse the action at Philadelphia, it moved so tardily—with such manifest reluctance and digust—that there was no difficulty in discovering where its heart stood in the controversy. The mere words were the words o conservative Jacob, but the tone, temper, the purpose, all savored of the Democraire Esau. Hence we maintain that the Democrats for whom the World speaks entered the Philadelphia Convention re-solved to be its masters; that, being disappointed, they left it resolved to be its betrayers; that the doings at Albany, by which all that was vital in the National Union movement was discarded, were in pursuance of the foregone conciusion to use the movement solely as a tender to the Democratic party. From which it follows that the imputations indulged in by the Richmond Enquirer, and other Southern jour-nals of that class, justly apply to rone besides Northern Democrats. They, and they alone, have crushed the hopes excited by the Philadelphia Convention, and incurred the odium of bad taith by breaking the conditions of that movement after formally enlisting in the ranks of its adherents.

The Democratic Party.

From the World. The Times finds it necessary, once in three days, to advertise that it has returned to the Republican fold, and supports the State ticket which its editor, up to the meeting of the Albany Convention, labored to defeat by an alli ance with the Democratic party. The stereotype, semi-weekly reason which the Times assigns for its treachery to Mr. Prayn and the Albany ticket is odd enough, considering the recent billing and cooing of its editor with Democrats. A sudden thought has struck him ! He supports the Syracuse ticket, which he tried to form a coalition with the Democratic party to defeat, out of pure horror of the said Democratic party. The Democratic party, he says, is a dargerous party: it is a di-credited party; it is a party whose return to power would be the greatest of public calamities. For the last two or three weeks these invectives against the Democratic party are constantly repeated. As they are flaunted forth merely to redeem Mr. Raymond s lost position, and restore him to his party standing, they perhaps deserve no other reply than a recognition of their motive. Still it may not be out of place to restate some of the claims of the Democratic party to public confidence.

The Times complains that the Democratic party declines all proposals to drop its organization and merge its existence in some new party. The Democratic party, having done nothing to be ashamed of, feels no need of an viias. It welcomes the albance of all citizens disposed to act with it; but it is too conscious of its rectifude, too proud of its history, too confident of the justness and ultimate triumph of its principles, to skulk into a hiding-place. came into power, many years ago, by redeeming the Government from centralism. It has since directed our destantes and made our history, up to the late unfortunate civil war, Thrice it has enlarged our national territories by vast additions. It has carried the country gloriously through two foreign wars—the only foreign wars we have had since the beginning of the Government. Its policy on domestic

questions has always been indorsed by the sober econd thought of the people. For sixty y anoth ug grea or durable was accomplished our Government when not under the control of the Democratic party. It opponents have found t necessary to take on all sorts of aliases; but the Democratic party has stood its ground. maintained its name, and never blushed for it

There is nothing of which the Democratic party has greater reason to be proud than it course during the late war. It courageously braved power, and a perverted public opinion in decense of civil liberty. The chief odium it incurred during the war was by its bold and manly resistance to arbitrary arrests, illegal imprisonments, and despotic interference with the freedom of speech and the press. Had it not been for this stout and re-olute defense of imperilled rights, the great principles of civil libert, would have been eradicated from the public mind. The Democratic party feels a martly pride that it raised its voice in defense of liberty, and caused it to be hear i above the din

of bactle and the clash of arms, Nobody, in looking back upon the late con-test, can point to a single despose interference with the liberty of citizens, and say that it hastened by a single day the triumph of our cause. To what length those abuses might have been earried if the Democratic party had not sounded the alarm and sent it far and wide, nobody can tell. Democrats have the satisfaction to re-flect that they perilled their safety and good name by boldly confronting lawless power in defense of civil liberty. They are slow to be instructed by political shuttlecocks, like the *Limes*, that this is a record to be assumed of.

The other great occasion on which the Demo-cratic party consented to locur odium, was when Mr. Lincoln issued his emancipation proclamation. As a war measure it was preposterous; first, because it professed to conter freedom on slaves which were entirely beyond our reach; and secondly, because it suffened the South to hight for three or four billions of property thereby put at stake. It probably lengthened the war two years. It caused the South to make the time of their collapse, their prost ation was con plete, and their country reduced to a waste. But the Democratic party opposed the proclamation chiefly because it was unconstitutional—an objection the force of which has since been con-tessed by the Republicans themselves, by amondng the Constitution to make emancipation valid

Now, whether the Democratic party was wrong or right on the mere question of policy, to i belongs the morit of keeping the Government anchored to the Constitution, and preserving the idea that measures which do not conform to the Constitution are void. If the Democratic party had acquie-ced in the repeated violations of the Constitution during the war, the idea o constitutional government would have been practically obliverated from the public mind Though we were deteated on particular points we were victorious in our main effort. We suc seeded in keeping alive the principle of consti-tutional government. It is owing to the Demo cratic party that the emancipation amendment

is a part of the Constitution.
It was solely in consequence of our disputing the constitutionality of the proclamation, and the republican fears that, on our regaining power, we would repudiate it, that it was made a part of the Constitution, and put beyond the darger of future disturbance. By thus compelling the republicans to seek the protection of the Constitution for their favorite measure, we brought them to a sense of the security of constitutional saleguards. We reinvigorated the decayine principle of constitutional government. The strenuous battle which we tought for the Constitution has so alarmed the Republican party that they feel no security for any of the fruits of the war without the guarantee of Constitutional amendments. The Democratic party may therefore fairly claim the merit of redeeming constitutional government from the danger of extinction. It is owing to our coura-geous exertions that the vessel, shattered during the war, was not shipwrecked. We have compelled even our political opponents to swim to-wards it, and try to regain its deck, as the ark

of their salety.
Whenever the Union is restored, it will also be due to Democratic courage. The intrepid vigor with which we demand restoration makes the Republicans uneasy and fills them with apprehensions. They know that the Southern whites and the Northern Pemocrats form a majority of the white population of the country. and have a preconderance of its physical strength; and it is because they appreciate our vigor and dare not push us to extremities, that they make so many awkward attempts to hide their cloven foot. Were it not for the elastic and indomitable spirit of the Democratic party. the Republicans would treat the Southern states as conquered provinces. It is our resolute attitude that keeps the idea of reunion up permost in the public mind, and compels the Republicans to affect a desire for early restora

Glorious as is the history of the Democratic party throughout its long career, it has never acted a part so greatly useful as during the late war. By the lears its vigor has inspired in the dominant party, it has saved constitutional government in this country, and is destined to save the Union. The Constitution and the Union have been its only battle-cries during the dangerous period through which we bave passed; and though neither is yet fully restored. t is entirely due to the Democratic party that they receive the universal homage of a lip-service, which will n ore and more strike its roots into the public heart.

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