

THE NEW YORK PRESS. EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

Secretary Seward—The Amenities of Political Life in America.

On Saturday last Hon. Mr. Scofield, of the House of Representatives, made a speech which ought to give him rank among that class of our Congressional orators whose utterances demonstrate their possession of a high statesmanlike ability, a calm philosophical intellect, and a fine appreciation of those personal amenities which soften the asperities of politics and are indicative of a lofty nature.

A few weeks ago the impression generally prevailed that the impeachment agitation was all moonshine. Next, when it began to assume the character of a fixed design, it was denounced as despotism and revolutionary by the established Southern Rebel press and their allies, the Copperhead organs and orators of the North, and as certain to involve the country in another rebellion.

It is interesting to see how the Southern Rebel press and their allies, the Copperhead organs and orators of the North, have been transformed into a class of men who are now ready to support any measure that will restore the Union and maintain the peace.

The "one old man" here referred to has been prominent as a statesman for nearly half a century. During that time he has for two successive terms been Governor of the State of New York; he has for two successive terms (or twelve years) been a Senator of the United States; he has for two successive Administrations occupied the position of Secretary of State.

Under all circumstances true, against all opposition firm, untroubled by the menaces of his proscription, unshaken by the storms of war, courageous in the darkest hours, and hopeful when even a nation was in despair, he has stood the type not only of the philo-sophic statesman and the consummate diplomat, but of the loftiest order of American patriots.

Finance and Currency. As to the prospective action of Congress on finance and currency, our guess may prove quite erroneous; but it is our impression that the sum total of the doings of this session will be just about nothing at all.

As to the various projects which look to the wholesale withdrawal of the notes of our National banks and their replacement by greenbacks we regard them with complacency, if not with positive favor; but we insist that resumption shall be the first step.

When the greenbacks were first issued, they were hastily regarded as promises to pay as soon as we could—no more, at least, than the stress of war should have passed away. Now that we have peace, and are paying of national debt, rather than incurring it, let us resume payment at its events, let us not multiply falsehoods which have not even the doubtful merit of deceiving.

Strategical Movements on the Impeachment Question—The Issue and the Elements. A few weeks ago the impression generally prevailed that the impeachment agitation was all moonshine.

It would be due to justice that Mr. Johnson's character should be vindicated against unjust suspensions, and no vindication would be so triumphant as that which should stand in the eyes of Europe and of posterity as a restoration to office by the free suffrages of an honest and outraged people.

Mr. Johnson, if impeached, will not be tried by a secret Star Chamber, but by the Senate in open sessions. The public are just as competent to judge of the evidence as the Senate itself.

It is interesting to see how the Southern Rebel press and their allies, the Copperhead organs and orators of the North, have been transformed into a class of men who are now ready to support any measure that will restore the Union and maintain the peace.

Does this new departure suggested in behalf of the President meet the necessities of the case? We understand it involves the casting out of the pending Constitutional amendment and the readmission into Congress of the Rebel States, under their concession of negro suffrage, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

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It will probably be retorted; but turbulence and bloodshed are, on all accounts, to be deprecated, and should be reserved as a last appliance when all other remedies have failed.

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