

THE NEW YORK PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS FOR CURRENT TOPICS—CONTINUED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The Next Presidency.

From the Independent. The story of Judge Carter's interview with General Grant is an extraordinary one. The Judge is a well-known Republican politician of Washington, holding strong radical views. His favorite candidate for the next presidency is Ben Wade—who is one of the grandest of our public men, whether a presidential candidate or not. The object of the Judge in calling upon the General was what? It was to ascertain, first, whether General Grant would be a candidate, and, second, if so, with which party he would act.

Now, we have fixed upon no favorite, as yet, for the next presidency. Any one of a dozen good men whom we could name would satisfy us thoroughly. Moreover, why should we be troubling ourselves with selecting a man this summer who is not to be nominated till next? Nevertheless, it is always a safe practice to determine who shall not be a presidential candidate. We therefore announce in advance our inflexible opposition to any and every man for the next presidency to whom party managers have to put any such miserable interrogatory as, "Sir, to which party do you belong?"

The Republican party wants a Republican candidate. A party with principles wants a candidate with principles. A party whose policy is open and avowed demands a candidate whose opinions are definite and known. A party with a moral mission disdains a candidate of doubtful faith.

We know nothing as to the authenticity of the story of Judge Carter's interview with General Grant. The statement, however, originates with the Cincinnati Commercial, a paper whose editor, as we happen to know, is opposed to degrading journalism by publishing sensation despatches containing more story than truth. But we refer to the story not for its own intrinsic importance, but solely for the moral which it points. That moral is, Let the Republican party beware of seeking a Presidential candidate in any man in whom it has not long ago found an open and unequivocal advocate of its principles and aims.

Suppose General Grant, before the opening of the campaign in the Wilderness, had been waited upon by Judge Carter, with the question, "General, under which flag do you propose to fight?" The question would have been an insult; for it would have implied a doubt as to whether General Grant was a loyalist or a Rebel. So a question to any proposed presidential candidate, "Sir, from which party will you accept a nomination?" is equally an insult; for it implies that the man to whom it is addressed may be ready to join either the political friends or the political enemies of his country.

We are not to be understood as reflecting upon General Grant. If either he or any other man chooses to be without political opinions, this is a free country, and such idiosyncrasies are accordingly permitted.

When we insist upon it, not that General Grant shall have political opinions, but that the next Republican Presidential candidate shall have such opinions. There are many ways in which a man may honorably serve his country, without holding or without expressing positive and well-defined political views. General Grant has honorably served it in one of these ways—that is, by leading its armies. But it is not possible that a man shall honorably serve his country as a Presidential candidate, and at the same time be a deservingly strong, well-grounded, and openly known political conviction.

This country has suffered for three years under a President who has been a curse to it. This man was the deliberate choice of the Republican party. That party might have chosen whomever it would—picking the fittest spirit from among a thousand able and honest men. Its blunder in choosing Andrew Johnson was, that it did not stop to ask whether he had settled political convictions; or, if he had, whether these were in harmony with the settled political convictions of the party that nominated its banner to its hands. Andrew Johnson did not cheat the Republican party; the Republican party cheated itself. Now, God forbid our instituting any comparison, direct or implied, between President Johnson and General Grant. The one is a knave, the other an honest man. But the Republican party cannot afford to choose either a knave or an honest man without definite political views. There ought to be an amendment to the Constitution providing that hereafter no man shall be eligible to the presidency unless it be proved that he believes something. "By faith ye are saved."

The history of the Republican party is a history of mingled glory and shame. The glory of the party has been its fidelity to great moral principles; the shame, its too frequent compromise and surrender of these principles. If ever in the history of the Republican party there was a time when that party needed for its standard-bearer a man of great devotion to moral principles, that time is now; that time will be the next summer's campaign; that time will be pre-eminently the next four years of presidential administration. If the Republican party—the party which is to elect the next President—shall deliberately nominate a man who is known for everything except for the one thing which should recommend a candidate—namely, his political convictions, integrity, and ability—the party will inevitably cheat itself, betray its trust, and shame the nation. The next administrator of the Federal Government ought to be a man with whom the love of liberty has been a life-long passion; with whom the principle of justice is a sacred flame; with whom political expediency is a cherished idea. He ought to be a man whose life has been identified with the great controversy of principles which ended in the overthrow of American slavery; not a man who has been indifferent all his life long to the greatest moral movement of modern times. As Abraham Lincoln was cut short in his benign work of upbuilding freedom, and as his successor has been the betrayer of the Government, the nation is now entitled to a President whose soul is competent to comprehend the large proportions of the yet unfinished work, whose heart is full of zeal for its accomplishment, and whose hand has had experience in the practical work of statesmanship. In God's name, let us have a great man for the next President!

Abusing Stevens.

From the Tribune. There was a grand conservative meeting in Washington the other night; but "Colonel Tom Florence," as that gentleman publicly avowed, did not come there to make a speech. He could not help saying, however, that "there were influences in our midst which must be crushed out." Here some one in the crowd conveniently mentioned the Star newspaper, Mr. Florence's professional rival, whereupon that gentleman continued in a strain of scorching significance:—"I did not mention any names. It was a viper, or the head of a viper, and should be trampled upon." Colonel Tom is famous for his business-like vituperative; but even this withering speech feebly conveys the spirit of the Washington meeting. Most of the subsequent orators singled out that veteran and venerable statesman, Mr. Stevens, as the mark of a magnificent spite, and, as it were, the object of an undying hatred, to both of which emotions, as indulged by the conservative class of our fellow-citizens, his talents and convictions are qualified at all times to give active exercise. Another "Colonel," one Mr. Zeffin from Philadelphia, arose and thus swooped down upon the victim Stevens: "He (Stevens) was a man not fit to live in any community, for he was a demon, and was marked as such. He has the cloven foot, and shows it, and is as deformed in body as he is in mind. It was not agreeable to him (the speaker) to allude to any man's deformity, but in this instance the mind was so like the body that the allusion was not out of place. (Applause.)" Still another "Colonel," one Mr. S.S. Leidy of Philadelphia, followed in the same manly and fearless fashion. We have it from the Washington Intelligencer, that referring to "Thad. Stevens," the speaker said, "He hated Masons with a vituperative hatred, and just in proportion as he hated the Masonic Fraternity years ago he measured his hatred of Andrew Johnson now." We are not certain that this speaker has received or expects to receive honors or emoluments in the gift of the Executive; but he proceeded with great correctness to remark that Mr. Johnson was "made of different material to that which entered into the composition of Mr. Stevens," and to assert and maintain that "he (Johnson) stood in the storm which howled about him as a mighty oak." "Did he," asked the speaker, referring to the President's Western tour, "like William D. Kelley, creep under the table and sneak under the platform? No! Tell me he has no moral courage! Thaddeus Stevens," etc. etc. We have only to fancy Mr.

this regimen of laudatory "puff" and critical "soothing syrup" could certainly result in nothing but artistic inanity and inflation. The artist, indeed, needs the inspiration of a generous and enthusiastic public appreciation; but let this degenerate into general indiscriminate laudation, and scarcely genius himself can resist the temptation to forego the immortal triumphs of noble toil, and rest content with the shams of indolence and charlatanism. From this fatal influence, American art has not escaped without traces of serious injury. It must be confessed there exists to-day in the profession too much reliance on the sure and infallible judgments of time. The few instances in which an adroit lavishness of money and convivial favors upon the press has gained for artists great notoriety and pecuniary profit, have affected numbers of earnest students with the mad dream of sudden fame and wealth. Have they not seen proof that there is a shorter road to success than that which the great masters, of all ages, have followed? Have they not good reason for believing the public to be utterly devoid of taste and discrimination—a fit subject for unlimited dupe? What is the influence of our most prominent painters on the rank and file of artistic aspirants? Does it encourage a more hopeful devotion to the inspiration of beauty and the enthusiasm of truth, which are the very life of art, or does it rather create a distrust of noble aims and study, and beget an impatient desire to grasp the dazzling success of jugglery?

This demoralization, which the press and writers on art have done so much to foster, seems likely, in fact, to be arrested and corrected by the same agencies. The extensive influx of a better class of foreign art-workers, affording to the public a standard for estimating the actual character of American art, has rendered a continuation of the old practices of fulsome laudation utterly impossible. Writers for the press, "accepting the situation," have endeavored to place themselves on higher ground, as circumstances required. The artists, unfortunately, could not so readily effect a change of base. They could not unlearn the lessons of old habits, and adapt themselves at once to the sudden advance of the popular taste. Hence the ancient *catena cordis* was destroyed; and to-day the two guilds are fulminating against each other on accusations of incompetence, ignorance, and malevolence, with a most amusing abandon and vigor. All reverence is at an end. The veriest critical tyro does not hesitate to impale artists of the most imposing newspaper fame, and dash them with his *stylus* as if they were only "Malthusian dust." Academies of adamant dignity and continental jurisdiction are belabored and badgered like the unfortunate beast of Balaam. At the same time, critics of unflinching boldness receive from even the circles of the brush as little consideration as if they had always manufactured "opinions" for a price, and knew no more of drawing and painting than the mob of academicians.

While both parties are thus exposing each other's weaknesses, the public looks on, amused, perplexed, or indifferent, and learns a most important lesson. The utter anarchy and contradiction which prevail in both the criticism and practice of art, serve admirably to show the necessity of their own resources. To show the people a way for themselves. This lesson they are rapidly mastering. Instances are not un-frequent in which verdicts of condemnation, pronounced by our most prominent critical authorities, are reversed by the tribunal of last appeal—the cultivated popular taste. This is a tendency in the right direction, and, until art has this broad foundation in the appreciation and judgment of the people, it can never reach its full development; for the artist cannot have that independence of coteries and that certainty of a final reward, which can warrant him in devoting his life to the noblest labors.

Another great benefit likely to grow out of this anarchy, is the introduction of a more thorough investigation of principles on the part of both artists and critics. There is undeniably an immense deal of truth in their mutual accusations of incompetence for their professions. A thorough course of artistic training is, at present, not only unknown, but impossible in this country. The case is not much different in criticism.

The press, and other benefits likely to be evolved from the present artistic chaos, fully justify us in considering the period one of peculiar cheer and promise for healthy progress.

Thad. Stevens on Confiscation.

From the World. Mr. Stevens' letter to Mr. McPherson is but a manifestation in a different form of the same insolent and revengeful spirit which in other forms is displayed by the whole Republican party. The passionate ebullitions of sectional venom which have attended the bailing of Jefferson Davis are quite as vengeful and ignoble in spirit as Thad. Stevens' persistent demands for confiscation. Those Republicans who disclaim for themselves and their party all sympathy with Mr. Stevens' confiscation views, might find, by a little self-examination, that they are as truly confiscationists as he is. For what difference does it make whether you rob men of property in actual possession, or intercept it on its way to Virginia? To blight their fields is even a greater injury than to rob their granaries; for the property filched in the one case may be of some advantage to others, while the prevention of production does not enrich the spoiler, and makes the sufferer poor indeed. If the full measure of confiscation which Mr. Stevens demands had been consummated two years ago, and the Southern people had been then permitted to freely use their natural advantages for recuperation, that section would be far richer than it is to-day. The Republican party stultifies itself when it disclaims sympathy with Mr. Stevens. That party has virtually confiscated and destroyed all the Southern wealth of which it has prevented the creation. By keeping the South unsettled, and all its prospects uncertain, the Republican party has prevented its borrowing the capital necessary to the revival of Southern prosperity, has arrested enterprise, fettered industry, and inflicted evils in comparison with which Mr. Stevens' plan of confiscation would be a bagatelle. If his policy is cruel and inexpedient, that of the whole party is so on the same grounds, and to a much higher degree.

Flour Cheapening.

From the World. New York is in the enjoyment of a little panic in the flour market. Prices have declined in ten days from one to two dollars per barrel. The greatest decline has been in the finer grades of family flours. The supply of California flours has had an important influence in promoting the decline. But, as is always the case, when prices took a slight downward tendency, supplies from all quarters largely and unaccountably increased. Our supplies are somewhat in excess of the current wants of the market, to say nothing of the meagre business now done; and with warm weather upon us, there can be no disposition to increase stocks, but rather to decrease them, and we see no reason why the best family flours may not decline to about fifteen

dollars per barrel. So long as prices are above the export limits, the market has no support; and holders can feel no safety until we approximate an export basis. To be sure, we shall have nothing to spare for export for a long time, but the possibility of export orders being executed is necessary to give stability to the market. We hope our bakers will be as quick to inform themselves of the decline in flour as they were to note the advance, and regulate the size of their loaves accordingly.

The Eastern Question.

From the Herald. The projected marriage of the daughter of the Grand Duke Constantine to the King of Greece is a very significant circumstance. All the world knows that Russia has been giving moral support to the Candian insurgents; but it was done in a way to avoid calling upon herself diplomatic remonstrances. Now that that island can hold their own, and that the movement is likely to be participated in by other Christian populations subject to the Porte, the casts aside all reserve. This projected alliance between the reigning families of the two countries is a declaration to the world that, in the event of the Turks invading Greece, Russia means to make it cause her own. It will be the first step towards the realization of the policy which she has steadily kept in view since the time of Peter the Great. The remonstrance addressed to the Porte in regard to Crete was, as it was asserted, merely preliminary to active intervention on the part of the great power. Russia will lead the way by establishing, in right of this marriage, her claims to be first in the field. Once she takes up arms for the settlement of this and other questions arising out of the incapacity of the Sultan to protect his Christian subjects, it will be long before she lays them down again. A war in defense of the Greeks would be the most popular commencement she could make towards the accomplishment of her designs upon Constantinople. There is no longer any doubt of her purpose in this regard. Royal marriages are like the straws which indicate the direction of the political current.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

UNION LEAGUE HOUSE.

MAY 15, 1867.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA, held March 12, 1867, the following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted:— Whereas, In a republican form of government it is of the highest importance that the delegates of the people, to whom the sovereign power is entrusted, should be so selected as to truly represent the body politic, and thereby no protection law whereby the people may be organized for the purpose of such selection, and all parties having recognized the necessity of such organization by the formation of voluntary associations for this purpose, and Whereas, There are grave defects existing under the present system of voluntary organization, which it is believed may be corrected by suitable provisions of law; now, therefore, be it Resolved, By the Board of Directors of the UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA, that the Secretary be and is hereby directed to offer eleven hundred dollars in prizes for essays on the legal organization of the people to select candidates for office, the prizes to be as follows, viz:—

The sum of five hundred dollars for that essay which, in the judgment of the Board, shall be first in merit; Two hundred dollars for the second; Three hundred dollars for the third; and One hundred for the fourth. The conditions upon which these prizes are offered are as follows, viz:— First, All essays competing for these prizes must be addressed to GEORGE H. BOKER, Secretary of the Union League of Philadelphia, and must be received by him before the FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 1868, and no communication having the author's name attached, or with any other indication of origin, will be considered. Second, Accompanying every competing essay, the author must enclose his name and address within a sealed envelope, addressed to the Secretary of the Union League. After the awards have been made, the envelopes accompanying the successful essays shall be opened, and the authors notified of the result. Third, All competing essays shall become the property of the Union League; but no publication or recited essays, or the names of their authors, shall be made without consent of the authors in writing. By order of the Board of Directors, GEORGE H. BOKER, SECRETARY.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

HARRISBURG, April 16, 1867.—The "Republican State Convention" will meet at the "Herold House," on Wednesday, the 20th day of June next, at 10 o'clock A. M., to nominate a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court, and to initiate proper measures for the coming State canvass. As heretofore, the Convention will be composed of Representative and Senatorial Delegates, chosen in the usual way. It is to be held in the hall of the Senators and Representatives in the General Assembly. By order of the State Central Committee, GEORGE W. HANESBURY, Chairman, J. RUBEY HUNGLISON, Secretaries.

THE OFFICE OF

The Liverpool, New York, and Philadelphia Steamship Company, "Inman Line," Has been removed from No. 111 WALNUT STREET, to NO. 411 CHESTNUT STREET. 522119 JOHN G. DALE, Agent.

OFFICE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, May 4, 1867. The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of THREE PER CENT. on the Capital Stock of this Company, clear of National and State Taxes, payable in Cash on and after May 15th. The Board have also declared an EXTRA DIVIDEND of FIVE PER CENT. on the Capital Stock of this Company, clear of National and State Taxes, payable in Cash on and after May 15th, at the rate of FIFTY Dollars per share—the shares for said dividend to be dated May 1, 1867. Such certificates will be issued for fractional parts of shares; said Certificates will not be entitled to any interest or dividend, but will be convertible into stock when presented in sums of Fifty Dollars. Powers of attorney for collection of Dividends can be had on application at the Office of the Company, No. 238, THIRD STREET. THOMAS T. FIRTH, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, May 25, 1867. The Board of Managers have this day declared a dividend of THREE PER CENT. on the Capital Stock of this Company, clear of National and State Taxes, payable in Cash on and after May 31st, at the rate of demand. SOLOMON SLEEPER, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, May 30, 1867. The Subscribers to the Stock of this Company, in the terms of their circular of August 29, 1866, are hereby notified that the balance due on their subscriptions if not paid on or before the 1st of June next, will be chargeable with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum. Full payments will be required on the 1st of October, 1867. SOLOMON SLEEPER, Treasurer.

STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.—THE FAULKNER AND MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK.

PHILADELPHIA, May 23, 1867. A General Meeting of the Stockholders of Philadelphia will be held at the BANKING HOUSE, on WASHINGTON STREET, on the 28th day of June next, at twelve o'clock, noon, for the purpose of taking into consideration and voting upon amendments to the Charter and Fifth of the Articles of Incorporation of the said Bank. By order of the Board of Directors, W. RUSHTON, J. N. Chamber.

Office of the TREMONT COAL COMPANY. No. 10 PHILADELPHIA EXCHANGE, May 30, 1867. The Treasurers of the Mortgage Bonds of the TREMONT COAL COMPANY, due June 1, will be paid on presentation at this office, on and after that date. GEORGE H. COLLET, Treasurer.

POST OFFICE.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 29, 1867. The mails for Havana, Cuba, per steamer STABLE OF THE UNION, will close at this office on SATURDAY, June 1, at 9 o'clock A. M. the day of sailing. HENRY H. BINGHAM, P. M.

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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Obstinate Eruptions, Itches, Pimples, Boils, etc.

are quickly removed by a short course of these remedies. The Ointment gives a clearness and transparency to the complexion, while the Pills purify the blood of all those humors which otherwise seek outlet for themselves to the surface, and disfigure the face and neck with such unsightly blotches, pimples, etc. No toxic substance should be without it. Sold by all Druggists. 521 South St.

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splendid Hair Dye is the best in the world. The only true and perfect Dye—colorless, Resists Inflammation. No Disappointment. No Irritation. Natural Black or Brown. Remedies the ill effects of Bad Dyes. Invigorates the hair, leaving it soft and beautiful. The genuine is signed WILLIAM A. BATCHELOR. All others are mere imitations, and should be avoided. Sold by all Druggists and Perfumers. Factory, No. 31 BARCLAY STREET, New York. 451017

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REMOVAL.

A. & H. LEJAMBRE, Late No. 1012 Chestnut street, have removed their FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY WAREHOUSES to No. 1103 CHESTNUT STREET, UP STAIRS. 430 3/4

A. S. ROBINSON

No. 910 CHESTNUT STREET. Is in receipt to-day of an invoice of FINE CHROMOS, ENGRAVINGS, ETC. ETC. Which are now open for examination.

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To FAMILIES RESIDING IN THE RURAL DISTRICTS. We are prepared, as heretofore, to supply Families at their Country Residences with every description of FINE GROCERIES, TEAS, ETC. ETC. ALBERT C. ROBERTS, 1177 1/2 Corner ELEVENTH and VINE STS.

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THREE HUNDRED GALLONS OF Fine Spanish Olives. For sale by the gallon, much below the cost of importation, by JAMES R. WEBB, 3141 1/2 Corner WALNUT and EIGHTH STS.

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OLD SHINGLE ROOFS (FLAT OR STEEP) COVERED WITH JOHN'S ENGLISH ROOFING CLOTH, And coated with LIQUID GUTTA PERCHA PAINT, making them perfectly waterproof. LEAKY GRAVEL ROOFS repaired with Gutta Percha Paint and warranted for five years. LEAKY SLATE ROOFS coated with liquid which becomes as hard as slate. TIN, COPPER, ZINC, or IRON coated with Liquid Gutta Percha at small expense. Costing from one to two cents per square foot. Old Board of Shingle Roofs ten cents per square foot, all complete repairs, constantly on hand and for sale by the PHILADELPHIA AND PENNSYLVANIA ROOFING COMPANY. GEORGE ROBERTS, No. 220 N. FOURTH STREET, 112 1/2

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