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HOITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Soup Societies and the Presidency.

From the Tribune.

The Union Republican General Committee of this city is composed of a number of gentlemen who left the Republican party because they were not allowed to remain in it. They are a forlorn hope of the Democracy, and fight under false colors. These gentlemen having been beaten at every election, probably would have already disbanded their meagre forces had it not been for Mr. Thurlow Weed, whose extraordinary Imagination conceived the highly original plan of nominating General Grant for the Presidency. The Committee jumped at the suggestion; it met; it nominated the General, and its members are now quarrelling as to who shall be the Secretrry of State, and who shall name the New York appointments in 1869. Mr. Weed has several hundred friends to whom he has half promised the Collectorship, and they are all quarrelling. Each of these Collectors in future has promised or sold the Custom House offices to a host of famishing applicants, and they are all quarrelling. In fact, by this time everybody connected with the nomination is in a fearful condition of rivalry with everybody else-except General Grant himself, who, unalarmed by this sudden attack upon his reputation, is enjoying the sea breeze at Long Branch. Of course, nobody thinks a nomination by

the Union Republican Committee of the least intrinsic importance. This Committee is a Soup Society, differing from others in this respect, that it does not give soup but asks for it. Every member now presents his ladle to General Grant, and will remain in an attitude of eagerness and hunger which is piteous to behold. Such a nomination has not much national influence; the hack-drivers might as well pass resolutions of thanks to George Washington for his services in the Revolution, or a committee representing the pie-sellers declare their entire confidence in the correctness of the multiplication table. People would believe that two and two are four even if the ple-men denied it, and General Grant's popularity is not the least in-creased by the fact that the Soup Committee believes in it. The nomination, therefore, would not be worth notice were it not for the fact that it was prompted by Thurlow Weed. His approval of General Grant is one of those extraordinary events which need to be looked into, and that the Committee gave "three enthusiastic cheers for General Grant and Thurlow Weed" should scarcely cause the hero of Richmond great uneasiness. It is a sinister combination. Shall we next hear of three cheers for Abraham Lincoln and Vallan-

Dreadful would be the fate of the General commanding the Armies of the United States should he fall into the hands of Mr. Weed, as "Oliver Twist" into the clutches of "Fagin the Jew." We all know what Mr. Weed will do with the General if he catches him. Just as "Fagin" tried to make "Oliver" a thief, Mr. Weed will seek to turn Grant into one of those nondescript party leaders who are half Demogratic, half Republican, and wholly detestable. He will turn the General's uniform inside out; he will array him in blue and grey; he will make him anew after his own image, so that we shall have a victorious soldier objecting to the conduct of the war, a patriot whose highest ambition is office, and a statesman whose noblest policy is to make the people forget that principle is greater than expediency. General Grant, bound in chains by his conqueror, will be led through the land as one of the trophies of the forlorn hope. Mr. Weed will turn triumphantly to the Democrats, and say, "Have we done you no service, then? Can you abuse us an as renegades without influence, and deserters who can't fight? See what we have brought you!" The chained lion will be patted on the head by Vallandigham and embraced by Doolittle. Woodward, of Pennsylvania, will pare the lion's claws, Jesse Bright will pull his teeth, and Horatio Seymour clap on the muzzle. Having thus secured themselves from any sudden remorse or insubordination of the lion, Mr. Weed will mount his back; Vallandigham, Tilden, Thomas B. Seymour, Sunset Cox, Samuel Randall, William B. Reed, James Brooks, will get up behind, and with James W. Wall of New Jersey hanging to the tail, the whole party will set off on a trot to Washington. We don't think they would ever reach it; the load would be too heavy. We need not say that this nomination is in

the interest of the Democracy, but if it were not, we should advise all trading politicians to let General Grant and all our other great Generais alone. The people don't want to be engineered by fifth-rate local clubs; want no Grant or Sheridan or Sherman parties at this day. In their good time they will settle the Presidential question, and in the meanwhile are only amused by the intense admiration of Mr. Weed and his friends for the virtue of popularity, and their insatiable appetite for soup. Since Lee resigned at Appomattox Court-house we have known no such attack on General Grant as this. The forlorn hope could offer him no greater impertinence than to nominate him, for if he has Presidential aspirations, there is nothing that could do more to lessen his chances than the support of renegade Republicans and tools of Democratic wirepullers.

Our Diplomacy in the East.

A liberal commercial treaty between the empire of Japan and the Governments of the United States, England, France, and Holland, was formally concluded at Yeddo on the 25th of June, 1866. By that instrument a tariff of duties was arranged, and the schedule agreed upon, and which formed part of the treaty, was to regulate the scale of customs' imposts for a period of six years. The charges for permits of landing were abolished. Foreign goods, warehoused at the ports of Yokohama, Nagazaki, and Hakodadi, under the charge of the Japanese Government, were to be exempt from duty, if reported at the instance of the owner. If withdrawn from the warehouse for sale at the port of entry, the custom rates established by the convention were to be exacted.

Articles of Japanese production entered at any of the ports open to foreign trade were declared free of duty, with the exception only of the usual tolls for the maintenance of roads er navigation. A liberal system of gold and silver exchange was established in place of the old restrictions upon the use of foreign coins. At the different points of entry the details of customs regulations were to be submitted to a negotiation between the local Governors and the foreign Consuls. A modification of the old shipping laws was agreed upon. Hindrances | time an unpleasant subject to a large and reof every kind to commercial intercourse be- spectable body of members in both Houses of from the third story at the House Date will be the following the story and was anticome to the story and the story and the story that are the following the graph that are the story tha

tween Japanese and foreign merchants were removed. And, in short, a treaty of trade and commerce of as liberal a character as the Governments concerned had any reason or right to expect, was established—as we had all hoped, upon a solid and substantial basis. That hope seemed to be amply confirmed when the official report of the agreement with the Japanese Government as to foreign settlements came to hand the other day. The readiness of the Imperial authorities to prepare sites at Hioga, Osaka, and other ports on the West Coast; the liberal terms on which the leases were to be granted; the apparent heartiness with which the Japanese agents accepted the new tests to which their liberality was subjected — all appeared to give strength and conclusiveness to the conviction theretofore cherished, that the last barrier to the development of the trade of the Japanese Empire was about to be removed forever, and that a new era of commercial life and enlightment for Japan, for the East, had certainly

opened. In view, then, of what had been done, of what had been promised, of what had been hoped for, it is discouraging to learn through the telegraph, by way of Europe, that the Damios are again at work, and that-jealous as they are known to be alike of the Central Government of the Empire and of the advances of foreigners—they have declared themselves against the opening of the great port of Osaka. Nor is their opposition to be regarded as insignificant, or as a mere impotent protest which they lack the necessary power to back up. If the report, as it comes, is true, we may not only look out for a serious interruption in the commercial negotiations and arrangements now so far advanced, but we may look for a renewal of those affronts and of those violent attempts to drive out the citizens as well as the agents of foreign powers which led to the chastisement administered to Prince Nagato and the native party by the allied fleets in September, 1864.

Of the strange combination of authority which makes up the Government of Japan, that alone which centres in the Tycoon or political head of the Government has been ever outwardly friendly to the opening up of the country, or willing to be held amenable to the rules which regulate the intercourse of civilized communities. The Spiritual Emperor, so far as the secrets of Japanese diplomacy have yet been penetrated, steadily resisted (from the time of the treaty of 1858 down to the forcible display of the fleets in the Inland Sea at the close of 1865) all demands made upon him for the ratification of the agreements entered into by his Temporal Deputy or Minister. And judging from the unfriendly attitude which nine-tenths of the Daimios, in their separate principalities, have always borne towards foreigners, the conjecture is fair that the Spiritual Head of the Empire got his chief inspiration from them. They are not only an active social and political power in the country, but they control separate military organizations, which together make an army nearly four times as large as that of the central Government. Their weakness is their mutual jealousy of each other in home politics. But they have, with a few honorable exceptions, a common bond (which might become one of strength) in their antagonism towards foreigners.

It may be premature to reckon too hastily upon the authority of this report from London. If the opposition of the Daimios had assumed a serious aspect; if it was likely to thwart the objects secured by the treaty of Yeddo, and the agreement for opening up foreign settlements, we should have expected to hear of it by our own mail line direct from Yokohama. It is possible that by way of Hong-Kong and the Overland East India Telegraph lines, later news might reach London than any we had by the Colorado, on her last trip; and, therefore, we have to look at the possibilities of the report being true. Fortunately, we are not situated as we were when the Monitor was driven ashore near Hakodadi, in 1864, and was fired into by the miscreant officials of the place. We have, to-day, a respectable fleet in Chinese and Japanese waters. We are judiciously represented by Mr. Van Valkenburgh, our Minister Resident at Yeddo. We are in a position to get early and ample information of events as they develop themselves. Our hands are not tied as they were when we were obliged to charter a small merchantman on which to have our flag represented in the engagement of the Allied fleets at Simonosaki. Our Minister has been able to act in thorough accord with the representatives of England, France, and Holland. And we shall be amply prepared to do our part creditably in any emergency that may arise.

The End at Last. From the Nation.

We presume the work of reconstruction, so far as Congress has to do with it, is now over. This time there is no mistake about the meaning of the Reconstruction bill. The military commanders are fairly installed in possession of the supreme authority in the districts assigned to them, and the President is more powerless than ever he was, for he has fired the last arrow in his quiver. He has said, it is true, that he will never "willingly execute" the law-a speech which threw Mr. Boutwell into a state of great excitement, and made him call more solemnly than ever for impeachment; but then, if Presidents were to be tried and deposed for not executing laws "willingly," we fear hardly any President would reach the end of his term, because at least one law is passed in every term which the "Chief Magistrate" would rather not enforce. The mass of the public, we think, will be perfectly satisfied if he executes the law at all, and has given up caring greatly what his state of mind s. His last two communications to Congress, particularly the one in which he suggests the possibility of Congress having to assume the whole debt of the Southern States as the legal consequence of its interference with the work of reconstruction, were too foolish to make it worth anybody's while ever again to follow the course of his thought with either interest or anxiety. As long as he seemed a bold and desperate man, as he undoubtedly did when he hast began the game of vituperation in the spring of 1866, his manuer of looking at public questions naturally was of considerable importance. But the course which Congress has ever since pursued has so cooled his courage that we really believe him to be at this moment one of the most inoffensive men in public life. As a general rule, when a President announces that he means "to take the Constitution for his guide," as Mr. Johnson has so frequently done of late, he means that he intends to pursue a perfectly harmless career. The South, too, has by this time given up depending on him. No doubt there was a good deal of mischief done at first by his exposition of his views, but the extent of his powers is now known to everybody, and whatever hates or hopes Southern men may cherish, they certainly have ceased to rely on Andrew Johnson for the means of gratifying them.

We have no doubt impeachment is by this

Indeed, we know from Mr. Stevens | mself that he, at least, wishes he never were to hear it spoken of again, and we feel sure that many other members are equally sensi-tive. We therefore refer to it with considerable reluctance, and without the least desire or intention of wounding any gentleman's feelings. But we owe it to ourselves and to the public to mention that the affair has ended very much as we expected it would end-in rather ridiculous failure. The longer the investigation lasted, the louder were the promises of the impeachers and the smaller their performance. The committee has quarrelled a good deal, and indulged in much open recrimination; but in spite of their quarrelling none of their "startling revelations" have ever reached the public. We venture to repeat the assertion which we have already several times made, that the public knows now as bad things of the President as any member of the committee knows, and that the efforts of the minority have for the last six months been directed simply to making up in bulk of evidence for what was lacking in quality. When this movement was first started, nearly a year ago, we attempted to show why it ought not to succeed, and we prophesied that it would not meet with any popular favor, although at that time the country was seething with excitement, and the penalties of differing from Messrs. Stevens and Boutwell on any public question were heavier than they are now. We have never since then abated one jot of our confidence in the popular good sense with regard to it, in spite of many vigorous remon-strances from excitable subscribers, and the result has fully justified us. So, too, when, shortly after the Nation was started, we ventured to controvert the theory which was set afloat in Massachusetts, that the Supreme Court could be got to establish negro suffrage by declaring all Governments to be non-republican which made electoral discriminations based on color, we incurred some obloquy for taking such a cold, heartless view of the powers of the court in opposition to such weighty authorities as essrs. Boutwell and Sumner, and we forget how many others of like respectability. We were not shaken, however, and we have lived to see this same court decide against Mr. Boutwell's whole plan of reconstruction, and see him denouncing it with his usual fervor and threatening it with abolition for its perverseness. We have not the slightest doubt that the confiscation scheme will meet with the same fate as the impeachment scheme. The knowledge of history and of legislative science may not be very widely diffused amongst the American people, but the sound common sense, the feelings, hopes, and sympathies out of which the lessons of history and the principles of legislative science are drawn, pervade classes and conditions; and any writer or speaker who holds to these lessons and principles firmly, may feel right well assured that even if his path should temporarily diverge from the popular path, he will not fail to come out in the end in the same place.

Speaker Colfax told the story of reconstruction to the crowd under his window on Saturday night, in Washington, in fewer words, and with more force and effect than we have ever seen it told, and it is a story which does infinite credit both to Congress and to the people. The process has now lasted nearly two years; it has been marked by much foolish speaking, no doubt, and much waste of time, but we doubt if it would be possible to point to a legislative process in any age or country of equal intricacy and gravity which has been marked by so few mistakes. The essential facts of the case were, when the war closed, little known; they were infinite in number and variety, and they had been complicated by Mr. Johnson's premature and unwarrantable interference. Every step taken, therefore, at the outset, had to be tentative. Nothing positive was done till the South had fairly recovered its self-possession, and had revealed its real spirit. This spirit was then met by a minimum of coercive legislation. The Freedmen's Bureau act and the Civil Rights act were the least that could be done. anything was done at all, to secure to the negroes, not political rights properly so called, be it remembered, but the common rights of humanity, and the Southern States were offered, in the Constitutional amendment, conditions of restoration in which the North exacted nothing whatever as a victor in a bloody struggle. It simply asked the South to adapt its political organization to the alterations in its social organization. The South, acting under the advice of Northern Democratic politicians—perhaps the shallowest politicians which any country or age has ever produced-refused this offer with much bombast and rant. A whole year was then taken for the next step, and this next step was to arrange machinery for bringing the South into the Union nolens volens, not as a slave or a vassal, but with every form and guarantee, right and privilege which has ever been found in,

or suggested for, a free government. Affliction and disappointment have, beyond doubt, reconciled the Southern whites to their fate, and this time the revolted States will qualify for readmission, and will be readmitted. The duty of the Northern people in the meantime is clear. They ought, in the first place, to embody in their own legislation the principles they are forcing on the acceptance of the South; in the next place, bear with patience and good temper any capers which Southern politicians may be pleased to cut while coming back to their old places; in the third place, devote themselves strenuously during the next ten years to the work of edu If the experiment of freedom and equality should not end well in the South, it ignorance that will cause its failure. What the blacks as well as the whites need is not land but light, and this no expense or labor ought to be spared to supply; and the more demagogues rave and rant, the more car-loads of teachers and books we ought to send off. Every time Governor Perry makes a speech, a dozen fresh schools ought to be opened with Northern money. Every time Wendell Phillips calls for forty acres of land and a nomination for the Vice-Presidency for every black head of a house, a ton of school books besides periodicals, ought to be ordered and despatched. Of this work we cannot do too much; and in it we cannot waste or go astray.

Great Struggles in the United States and in Mexico-The Contrast, From the Herald.

Twelve more generals shot; Escobedo elevated to the supreme command of the armyas the type, doubtless, of a national hero-and a hot scent at the heels of Marquez and O'Horan, that the blood hunger may still be fed! Such is a summary of a day's news in philanthropy, and in rank of the English from the triumphant republic. And these are nation. the acts of a Government especially lauded as the only one that can give tranquillity to the nation; the only one that has the sympathy of the people; the Government compos d of those Mexicans said to be most worthy of

can get—this Government no sooner feels safe in its place, possessed of absolutely supreme power, than it gives itself up to acts that the whole reasoning world, outside of the immediate local pools of passion, regards with dismay and horror. If in the higher sphere of Mexican life we find this, what shall we find lower down? If they whose office it is to control the nation cannot control themselves; if men who are chosen that their wisdom may moderate the violence of nature in a whole people are only the more conspicuous in frenzy and leaders in acts that outrage the decency of the world, it would hardly be just to expect aught but the extremity of demoralization in the masses. There is, indeed, no tone in the nation; no high manly character; no morale to guide it in the hard path it has to tread, by those instinctive perceptions—the possession of better endowed races—that temper strict ustice with mercy and regulate abstract right by a rule of practical propriety. Nations are as their units multiplied in other respects than in numbers. Where the individual man ranks high in the race, is bold, intelligent, and deeply conscious of a moral responsibility before his fellows, there the nation commands its position among the great ones of the world; and, on the contrary, where a people are degraded and depraved, so that they scarcely have individual vitality, there the nation is barely to be trusted with its own destinies. And Mexico seems, in the light of her recent history, to be tending in that direction. Mexico and the United States have each re-

cently passed through a great struggle not unlike in some points; and how differently have the two people borne themselves! Mexico fought for her existence as a nation, her constitutional Government sustaining a fight that often seemed desperate against an opposing party of Mexicans supported by foreign forces. Her Government adhered to its cause with admirable tenacity. One of the worst features in the case was the barbarity with which the soldiers of the nation were treated by the adverse party when taken. Yet against all efforts the Government strove on, succeeded, and at length saw its right and authority admitted throughout the land. That hour o happy triumph seems to have softened no hearts, but hardened all. It was employed in the choice of victims; and in the hour sacred to liberty, men were slaughtered as if that fair deity, like an ancient Moloch, had pleasure only in bloody sacrifices. Admit that they had the right to kill Maximilian, was it wise to exercise it? Miramon and Mejia had justly forfeited their lives; but is it discreet to teach the people the law of retaliation and absolute justice at such a time? or must it be admitted that instruction less bloody would be lost? Here in the United States also the struggle against opposing forces was for life. It was so desperate, so maintained on either side that, in point of carnage, the whole Mexican war might be compre hended in some one of our battles. Indeed, we had an even deeper cause of exasperation than Mexico in the treatment of our prisoners; for who will say that the murders committed by the French and imperialists on Mexican patriots were not surpassed by the atrocities of Libby and Andersonville, those shambles of torturing death? But when the struggle was over, when the last battle was fought, the killing was ended. It was the wise judgment of the whole people to require no man's life-to require only that he should acknowledge the victorious principles and obey the law. Here the people felt that they had a noble cause to sustain, and that inhumanity would weigh heavier on those who practised it than on those who suffered. Indeed, we followed this so far that we even made fools of ourselves in letting the head traitor slip through our fingers with out securing a judicial recognition of his crime and fixing his banishment, as we should have done; but this was a failing on virtue's side, and the whole case together points clearly the distinction between a people with and one without national morale.

The Mooted Removal of the Five Commanders.

From the Herald. It is intimated with some persistency that Mr. Johnson will relieve the commanders of the five military districts and appoint other generals to fill their places. There is no doubt that he has full control over these gentlemen, as they are part of the army, and so he can get round the evident intention of the law. There is a party of agitators in Washington who urge him in this matter, and desire nothing so much as the excitement such a step would cause, and the chance that excitement would give of forcing extreme measures. If Mr. Johnson desires ito gratify these worthles he will take this last possible step; but it is scarcely necessary to say that he could do nothing more unwise or impolitic than to remove from such important positions the men who have the full respect and confidence of the nation and of Congress.

Garrison in England.

From the Independent. It is very seldom that a great reformer, whether in the intellectual, moral, or material world, receives his reward in his own day and generation. Galileo was imprisoned for the heresy that the earth moves round the sun, and obliged by the Inquisition to recant his error. The first inventor of the steam. engine died in a French madhouse to protect society against a man capable of such an insane delusion. And the fate of the reformers in morals and religion marks the whole pathway of history with fire and blood. It has been the singular felicity of our great American reformer to have lived to see the success of the reform he set on foot, and to receive in person the homage of the world's gratitude and admiration. Of all the remarkable assemblings and festivities of the present year in Europe, there is none more historically interesting than the breakfast given to William Lloyd Garrison in St. James' Hall, London, on the 29th of June, and there is none that will be longer remembered. The interposition of the Atlantic is like the separation of the ocean stream of Time, and the testimony borne to the services of the famous Abolitionist by that gathering of notable Englishmen and English women was like the voice of posterity giving the final seal to the fame of great actions There was something positively sublime in the contrast of the poor young printer defying the American nation to the combat as the champion of the slaves-alone, and with only God o help him-and the veteran reformer standing in the midst of victory, and receiving that splendid acknowledgment of the world's debt to him, offered by the noblest in genius,

Mr. Garrison's speech in reply to the address moved by the Duke of Argyll, and seconded by Earl Russell, was one of which all Americans may be proud. He claimed no particular merit for himself, and gave the glory of the success to God alone, in that spirit of piety general respect. In this we see that the Government which is the choice of the people, so far as choice can go in that country, and which all men having knowledge of Mexico seem to regard as the best Government she

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cial praise for anything I have done. I have for an office which it would be so obsimply tried to do my duty; to maintain in truth the integrity of my soul before God. I refused to go with the multitude to do evil, and I have endeavored to save my country rom rain. But then, I ought to have done it Il; and, having done it, I feel that there is othing to speak of, nothing to be compilmented upon. We ought to do our duty always; we ought to rejoice if, even through persecution, even through the Cross, we are ompelled to look duty in the face." The peech breathed that sincere and unaffected piety towards God which all who know him snow to have been the inspiration and support of his labors. The hostility which his faithful dealings with the American church, because of is shortcomings towards the slaves, aroused against him, found its expression for long years, ignorantly in some cases, malignantly in more, in the mad-dog cry of infide! But what infidel ever gave himself to the cause of despised and rejected truth as he did? Nothing but the strongest religious faith could have sustained him in the face of all the opposition he had to encounter. If there was ever a man who walked with God, and with a single eye to the doing of God's will, it was William Lloyd Garrison. And, standing up in the presence of that splendid and illustrious company, assembled to do him honor, he disclaimed all personal merit, and gave the glory where alone it is due. "It is all of God," said he; "it has been done through the truth which is of God, and to no mortal shall there be any glory given, but the whole of it unto

The unanimity with which the press of England spoke the feelings of the English people in just appreciation of Mr. Garrison's services was striking and suggestive. The Times, indeed, endeavored to diminish the credit due to his services by the affirmation that it was not the moral, but the political, and yet more the military movement that compelled the emancipation of the had slaves. As if the military movement would ever have been called for had it not been for the political movement, of which the first election of Lincoln was the crowning point; or as if the political movement would have had either beginning or continuance had it not been for the moral movement to which Garrison first gave form and pressure! But even the Times gave him the highest praise for courage and pluck, and justified the tribute paid him as one due to him and honorable to those who offered it. Even the Morning Post, the mouth-piece of the fashionable world, and which had few words of comfort for us in the days of our extremity, was warm and cordial in its expressions of admiration of Mr. Garrison and appreciation of his services. The Herald, alone of all the London papers that we have seen, was bitter and depreciatory in its tone, showing that it has learnt nothing by the lessons of philosophy teaching by the examples of our civil war. It reminded us of some of the Conperhead and semi-Rebel presses, whose snarling and yelpings have tried to interrupt the all but unanimous tribute of sympathy and admiration which American journalism has offered to Mr. Garrison since his course has been justified by its success.

It is perfectly true that slavery would have come to an end had Garrison never lived, as American Independence would have been won had Otis never uplifted his voice or Washington drawn his sword. But this is small reason for refusing the credit due to the man who saw what should be done, and who did it. God works by instruments, and the instruments are deserving of the honor due to secondary causes, to the perception of the Divine laws, and to the unifinching determination to proclaim and obey them. ous how precisely the same tone and the same line of argument were used by the enemies of Washington during his second administration, as that employed touching Garrison by the London Standard and the Copperhead prints of the United States. It was denied that he had any meritorious part in procuring independence. He was accused of want of mili tary capacity and of personal courage, and charged with plotting the ruin of his country, and even with pecuniary dishonesty! We of this generation can hardly realize the fury of the storm of calumny which beat on that illustrious head. But the people, in the end, always recognize their benefactors, and pay them due honor. The calumny and detraction are forgotten, and the services are held in everlasting remembrance. Neither the backbiting of envy nor the slanders of malice can obscure the just fame of the man who first proclaimed the duty of immediate emancipation; and the devont humility with which he ascribes all the glory of his success to God alone will make it only the more pure and the more bright.

General Grant for President.

From the World. On Tuesday evening the Republican General Committee of this city nominated General Grant for President. On the same day the negro-suffrage Republican State Convention of New Jersey voted down, by an engulfing majority, a motion offered by one of its members making the same nomination. This contradictory action betokens the contrariety of feeling which exists in the Republican party towards General Grant. There seems to be an expectation by a portion of the press that the supposed Presidential availability of this great soldier will cause both parties to tug as strenuously for his possession as the Greeks and Trojans did for the body of Patroclus. Tuesday's proceedings at Trenton and in this city show that there is as yet no unanimity in the Republican party on this subject, and there is doubtless quite as little in the Democratic ranks.

Meanwhile General Grant stands passive and imperturbable, doing nothing to encourage or discourage either one party or the other. It would be mere levity of character in him to take any public notice of the political gossip which makes so free with his name. He has no reason to covet the Presidency, or the nomination of either party as a step to it: and it is needless for him to nisclaim any wish

viously against his personal interest to ac-He has a much better office, cept. office congenial to his tastes and capacity; an office which exempts him from the shafts of partisan malice, and makes his reputation a cherished object of national pride; an office of which he holds secure possession for life, giving him agreeable occupation and distinguished social attentions if the country remains at peace, and opportunities to add to his great renown as a soldier if we should unhappily be drawn into war. To surrender a position so congenial, honorable, and secure, and descend into the arena of envenomed party politics for the sake of a four years' tenancy of the White House, and afterwards rust out his ripest years in unsalaried idleness, is a choice we should hardly expect from the solid good sense of General Grant. But the love of power and pre-eminence is the master-passion of so many strong minds, that it is idle to reason from any man's interests to his ambition. Leaving to General Grant the care of what concerns only him, we will try to draw from the splutter about his candidacy the public inferences it seems to warrant.

The eagerness of a portion of the Republi-can party to run for the Presidency a man not unacceptable to many Democrats, is a promising sign of a coming reaction against the principles and policy of the Republican party. That the stiff negro-suffrage Republicans do not want him is proved not only by the unceremonious treatment he received in the Trenton Convention, but by the constant flouts of many radical leaders and journals. If he should be the nominee of the party, it will be from expediency, not principle. A great and domineering party must feel that its power is sadly waning, when, instead of selecting one of its representative men, one whose antecedents identify him with its principles, it goes out of its party for a standard-bearer in the hope of propping up its fortunes by his military prestige. the Republican principles retain their hold on the mind of the party, there would be no necessity for resorting to such a shift. The Republican politicians see that they have got to lower their tone; that the tide on which they were borne into power is ebbing, and unless the party floats back with the ebb, it will be stranded. If the Republicans should run one of their representative men, like Chase or Sumner, they would be beaten by a million majority. All except the fanatical and heady radicals are turning wistful eyes to Grant, be-cause they believe that he alone can save the party.

The avidity with which Republican newspapers seize upon doubtful scraps of General Grant's conversation divulged through apocryphal sources, shows how great is their need, and how scanty their materials, for connecting him with their party. The sum of these apocryphal revelations is, that General Grant approves the policy of Congress. They do not tell us when he was converted. Nor do they define the extent of this asserted approval, or its grounds. If the quidnunes and retailers of alleged private conversations have any message to deliver from General Grant to the public, we wish they would give us something more than glimpses through a thick mist. General Grant probably thinks that, inasmuch as Congress has passed the Reconstruction acts, and will not repeal them, the South had better comply and get readmitted.

There is no evidence that his "approval" extends beyond this, and we refuse to believe interested assertions unsupported by any evidence. The assiduity which which many Republicans apply to General Grant's well-known conservatism the small, and to his willingness to see the Reconstruction acts executed the large, end of their telescopes, evinces the great need of something besides its principles for their tottering party to lean on. Grant has no politics pleasing to them discoverable by the naked eye; but his military renown is visible enough, and they need it to buoy up their sinking hopes. They see that if he is a Presidential candidate at all, he must be theirs, or their party is ruined.

The talk of the politicians about General Grant, though otherwise of little account, is thus of some value as a tide-mark. The flood of radical fanaticism is evidently abating. If it is already apparent that the Republicans cannot succeed without General Grant, it may be evident, by the time the nominations are made next year, that they cannot succeed with him. As he is a man of sagacity as well as taciturnity, quite capable of drewing correct inferences, we dare say he will be in no haste to make committals to the Republicans,

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