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EDITORIAL OFINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS DEON CORREST TOPICS-COMPILED EVERY DAT FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The Pence Congress of Geneva, From the N. Y. Tribune.

The anti-Liberal papers of Europe are, of sourse, exultant over the end of the Geneva Peace Congress. They had looked upon the preparations for it with some uneasiness, and the official papers had ominously threatened with intervention in case the Government of Geneva should concede to the assembled conspirators full liberty of discussion. Their uncasiness had increased when they learned of the grand reception of Garibaldi, which, they had to admit, equalled or exceeded the most brilliant receptions which have ever been, during the present century, given to any of the living monarchs. They could not deny that Garibaldi wielded an immense power; that the party which works in Europe for the introduction of Liberal institutions is by no means a contemptible foe, and that its labors well deserve their utmost watchfulness. They were therefore most agreeably surprised when it was announced that the proceedings of the Congress had suddenly been brought to an inharmonieus and, therefore, unsatisfactory close.

There was sadness, on the other hand, in all those who had built on the Congress great hopes for a vigorous reorganization of the European party of progress. The very idea of the Congress was an important step towards the establishment of a common creed. The weakness of the progressive party of Eqrope has, to a large extent, proceeded from their isolation. Because they were isolated, they were unacquainted with each other's tendencies; they misunderstood each other, and frequently fell a prey to the Macchiavellian statesmen, who were only too glad to divert attention from domestic oppression by wilfully conjuring up foreign troubles. It was a great and fruitful idea to remove these causes of the weakness of the party by an International Congress, to hear the views of the representatives of the several nations, and undertake to build up a platform upon which all may stand.

The Congress most appropriately called Itself a Peace Congress. Those papers which have tried to ridicule the participation of men like Garibaldi in a peace Congress, only show their ignorance of the great questions which at present convulse Europe. All the leading men who were present in Geneva were in favor of forswearing all conflicts of one na-tion with others. Every nation, they are agreed, should confine itself to securing selfgovernment. That point being reached, it should live at peace with all its neighbors.

There is no reason for discouragement if the first of the International Peace Congresses has not been a complete success. No great movement has from the start overcome all difficulties. But a good beginning has been made, which, we doubt not, will be followed up. A large number of distinguished men of various countries were present and took a part in the proceedings; others, like Louis Blanc and Jules Favre, expressed by letter a hearty sympathy. A place of meeting has already been appointed for next year, when, we doubt not, the lessons of the present year will be turned to advantage.

Mexico and the Presidential Contest. From the N. Y. Herald.

Our news from Mexico indicates considerable excitement over the coming Presidential election. As yet there is no one pledged to the field as a candidate in opposition to Benito Juarez. There is, however, some indication that Porfirio Diaz may enter the lists. A considerable party at the Mexican capital are desirous of pushing him forward as their leader. Still, there are some very strong reasons why General Diaz prefers, for the present, to remain in the background. A fellow townsman of the President, he is Indebted to Juarez for education, military advancement, and all his honors. His esteem for the man to whom he owes so much is very great, and it is, therefore, not improbable that Diaz may firmly refuse the nomination. There are, however, weightier reasons than these for his refusal, and these exist partly in the army. Diaz could not control any but the troops who served under him, and these do not number ten thousand men. The armies of Regules, Corona, and Escobedo will all vote for Juarez. while the States generally will support the latter. The capital of the country may have a hundred rumors with reference to the Presidential contest, but it will be found that the populous districts far removed from the city of Mexico will give an almost ananimous vote for the present incumbent of the Executive chair. All the Northern States are in favor of Juarez, while in the South the vote between him and Diaz would scarcely be divided. There is a marked tone of conciliation in the late action of the Mexican Government towards those who have heretofore been under the Liberal ban for aiding the empire. The act of confiscation, which made such a clean sweep of the property of Mexican Imperialists, has been revoked, and the property will, with rare exceptions, be restored. This is a very wise measure; for this was the only source from which the Mexican Government had any fear of a strongly organized revolutionary movement. By restoring the vast estates to their former owners, a formidable element has been quieted and bound to the interests of peace and order. The Government now proposes to give the olergy the vote and make them eligible to the office of representative to Congress. This movement is of doubtful value at this time for the great Liberal leader. Mexico, profoundly stirred to civil hatreds by the exhaustive wars she has waged against the clergy, feels little disposed to grant them any rights while the spirit of revenge is at such a red heat. The measure, conciliatory and just, is a good one; but it is premature. It will, however, give Juarez the support of the conservative and wealthy element of the country; but it may lose him much of the aid which he otherwise might have counted upon in the Liberal party. Another good measure which it is proposed to adopt is the closer assimilation of the Mexican constitution to our own. It is hoped thereby to give a better system of checks and balances to the different branches of the Government. There is much work before the Mexican statesmen. They have before them many problems which demand prompt and masterly settlement. Among these the first is the finan cial question. With a country unsurpassed in the ability to restore her credit to a sound basis, the only trouble relative to that matter is how to exist until the machinery can be repaired and set in motion. Then must be settled the question of feudalism, which has a marked hold in every Mexican State. The marked hold in every stextcan State. The great haciendas, often occupying from twenty to thirty thousand square miles, must be cut down. Land must be more equally divided. Taxation of real estate will do this. Heretogreat haciendas, often occupying from twenty to thirty thousand square miles, must be cut

fore the great estates have never been taxed. Another and all important thing for Mexico, if she would live as a separate nationality, is to strike out the word "to morrow" from her dictionary. The clergy have almost ruined Spanish America, but "to-morrow" weighs upon the land with a still heavier curse. We watch Mexico with intense interest, for she has at length finished her religious wars. It now remains to be seen how wisely she will make use of her victory. Her Presidential election is the first step to a glorious future, providing it will be taken. Fortunately, there s a chance that there will no candidate in the field against Juarez. Should Diaz determine to let his name be used, it might result in an exciting election, but still his defeat would be almost certain. Juarez holds one great advantage-he is an Indian, and much beloved by his race, which comprises seven-eighths of the population of Mexico.

Making Mistakes.

From the N. Y. Tribune. Blunders, in public affairs, are usually fatal to the prospects of those who fall into them. We have never perused anything of the kind more pathetic than the letter from Herschel V. Johnson to a Northern friend, which we recently printed. We refer to it now because such reference is seasonable; because from the President down to the puniest puppet who lisps the stale formulas of a shallow conservatism, there are men who are making the Georgian's blunder without his excuse. He engaged in the Rebellion against the feelings of his heart, the promptings of his conscience, and the conclusions of his understanding; he walked to certain and foreseen ruin, as he admits, because he thought himself bound to follow the people of his State even in a career of orime; and the result has been his political and material ruin. "I find myself," says he, "disfranchised and assigned to a position, in respect to political and social rights, inferior to that of my former slaves." He had "never cherished an emotion of hostility to the Constitution or the Union;" he "had spent half a century in endeavoring to uphold them;" and yet this old man suffered himself to be talked, and persuaded, and bullied, and coaxed into the notion that because his fellow-citizens in considerable numbers had betaken themselves to treason it was his duty to turn traitor with them. It was a chivalrous error, and grievously has Governor Johnson answered it; but he has still the consolation of knowing that he was swayed by no unclean venality, and that he did not lend his countenance to the conspiracy for the sake of personal aggrandizement. From the little gang of Northern apostates, who have bartered honor for pla e, and who have seen in the preservation of the Government only the continuation of its patronage, we can turn to the example of Governor Johnson, and find a kind of relief even in the contemplation of his error. He at least did not sell himself in the market. He at least acted under a nobler stimulus than that of greed. He frankly accepted revolution; but he did not put on the mincing airs of an artificial conservatism. He groans with reason over the establishment of manhood suffra.e; but what cause of distress have New York men-we do not care whether they call themselves Republicans or Democrats-at that natural, inevitable consummation ? If Rebels, with the smell of battle still upon their garments, please to side with the President in his usurpations, and his proscriptions, and his fawning upon Rebel remnants, there is no cause of wonder; but why should those who profess to be still loyal bow down and kiss his feet ? If the President hates the Republican party, why should those who have called themselves by our name and claimed with us fraternity, desert us at the very moment of our mortifying affliction? There can be no answer to these questions

the opinions of Mr. Binckley. General Han-cock's military career seemed from the first to constitute a guarantee against subjervieucy to the views promulgated by the President. It was not probable that his tried and sterling loyalty would admit of tampering with the law in the interest of disloyal factions. But is is represented as the factors in the second stermade safe by a war that will be different from any you have ever seen. We will be here again its November, antit which is is represented as the second stermade safe by a war that will be different from any you have ever seen. We will be here again its November, antit which is is represented by the second sterma and the second sterma the second stermatic by the second stermatic but to be the second stermatic but the second stermatic but the second sterma by a war that will be different from any you have ever seen. We will be here again its November, antit which it is nevertheless satisfactory to have these repeated and explicit assurances from his own lips of his resolve to carry out the law in its spirit, as opposed to the far-fetched rendering of its letter which forms the distinguishing feature of Mr. Johnson's programme.

But General Hancock goes still further. He does more than declare his adherence to the spirit of the law. He vindicates the law itself as neither vindictive nor tyrannical. "The strict performance of a soldier's duty," he well remarks, "may be construed by those whom it affects as oppressive; but a quiet submission to the execution of the acts of Congreas in spirit and letter will obviate all appearance of either oppression or tyranny. The case could not be more neatly stated. The law wears the aspect of oppression only to those who are opposed to its objects, and would frustrate its operation. There is not a statute in existence which is not deemed tyrannical by its habitual violators, and the Reconstruction law is not likely to be an exception. The penalties it prescribes are certainly not very despotic in their nature. Disabilities that are limited to exclusion from office and from voting are the mildest form which punishment for rebellion could assume. These are oppressive solely in the sense that attaches to all penalties for offenses defined by law.

The parts of the reconstruction scheme which most excite opposition are those which confer political equality upon the blacks; but surely the enfranchisement of the race whom the war has made free is not oppression to any other class. Hence the appositeness of General Hancock's saying:-"As to the legitimate execution of the law ever becoming oppressive or tyrannical, that depends much upon whether it meets with resistance, either passive or open." The communities which accept the lan of Congress in good faith, comply with its requirements, and leave other considerations to be determined after the South shall have been fully restored to the Union, will have no need to complain of cruelty or oppression. The law may be in some respects unpalatable to them as to others, but it cannot be properly branded as oppression, nor can the military government, which is one of its preliminary incidents, be justly stigmatized as tyrannical. Not so, however, with the antagonists of the law. Whether they work covertly or openly, they may be expected to demur to the nature of a system which compels them to obey the law and to abide by its results. In their eyes the suppression of the Rebellion by Federal power was gross usurpation ond despotism. It is natural for them to object to the just and logical sequences of Union victory as in the highest degree despotic. But the circumstance is not calculated to shake the confidence of the country in the equity and wisdom of the conditions laid down by Congress. The law was enacted in the interest of the Union-not to gratify the wishes of Rebels; and an opposition which aims at the abatement of Union demands for the convenience and gratification of those who regard the Union itself as the embodiment of oppression, is not entitled to very scrupulous attention. In General Hancock's estimation, "the lost cause" is not the cause to which the commanders of the military districts should pay particular deference. His explicit utterances on the subject dispel the last of the delusions to which the President's recent pro-ceedings have given birth.

The Indian Bother,

From the N. Y. World. The council held on the 19th instant at North Platte, between the United States Com

will be never again in November, whill which time you may bust on the Republican; but then we want you egain to meet us here and tell us for good if you agree to go up to the While Earth next spring. In that event we will provide for you here on Brady's Island the will provide for you here on Brady's Island till the grass grows in the spring, when we want you to no up to the White Earth to pick out your inture in mes; the nearer the Missouri the better, for by that river our steamboats can carry up your anneal supplies, and by if your taders can get your goods cheap. We would like you to think of these things now and to say what you think; but we will leave the arti-cles of our agreement to be made when we come back here in November."

FINE

Language like this, addressed to intelligent beings, would have been very instructive and convincing. But it greatly disgusted the savages who listened to it, and caused Turkey Foot, a Southern Cheyenne, and one of the most malignant of chiefs, to quit the council in a huff. The anger of the rest of the red men was masked. "We thought," said Swift Bear, a Sioux, "that you would give us a little ammunition to get our living with and make our hearts glad. Take pity on us this day.' Whereupon the Commissioners, taking counsel, copoluded to issue a limited supply of powder to the Indians along with the other presents provided, and to hope, in the meantime, that the tribes so favored would keep the peace until the next council in November. The plan which the Commissioners have re-

solved upon thus appears to be to put the hostile Indians aside, northward and south ward, from the great railroad and wagon routes of travel eastward and westward betwixt the Platte and Arkansas rivers; and to lispose of the northern Sioux so close to the Upper Missouri as that the road from Fort Laramie to the Montana mining districts above may be left open. It is very doubtful whether treaties to this effect can be peaceably and securely perfected. The Government has waited too long. Our troops on the plains during the past year have been too few, and have been too often evaded or beaten. The savages-particularly the vengeful Sioux-have thriven unlawfully and well upon the spoil of emigrant and Government trains, overland stages, and settlers' homes. They have been suffered to undervalue the might of the Great Father at Washington. Out of his plenty in charge of his commissioners, they will probably cajole what they can at the forth. coming councils, and then they will begin their devil's work anew. Our true policy was, years ago, to win them to our fold. W have continually thrust and still aim to thrust them out of it-therefore they continue to be preying border wolves.



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honorable to those concerning whom they are propounded. Mr. Johnson is taken up abandoned as suits their convenience. Their side of the fence is that side upon which the crops look the most promising. Their conservatism means cash. Their principles have all a pecuniary squint.

We know what we mean when we write ourselves radicals, and we are quite prepared to take the consequences of doing so. who call themselves conservatives should be ready to tell us what they desire to conserve. Is it the old Democratic party with which they were so scandalously ready to strike hands? That we understand. Is it the tendency of the public money to their own private pockets? We comprehend even that. Is it the management of a great party by a handful of men who expect to be roundly paid for their affec-tionate care! Even this is not inscrutable. Is it the foregiveness of sinners before they have repented ? Is it the embracing and kissing and orying of the Philadelphia Convention ? Is it making private bargains with our bitterest opponents for personal purposes? Such conservatism, we confess, is a little too delicate and metaphysical for us, and it may prove in the end a trifle too potent even for its professors. The people of this State are not in a humor to be played with for the satisfaction of any man's greed; and leaders who are missing when they are most wanted may do very well as conservatives, but must not expect to be rated as Republicans. Thus far they have done nothing except make blunders. The Philadelphia Convention was a blunder of more than Hibernian proportions. The timid support given to the President was another. The league in this State with the Copperheads was a third, the pretense of being this year Republicans, even conservative Republicans, is a fourth. At this rate the time for weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth cannot be far distant. Let it come !

General Hancock on the Reconstruc-tion Law.

From the N. Y. Times.

Our Washington correspondent's report of an interview with General Hancock fully confirms the impression produced by that gallant soldier's speech to the crowd that serenaded him. All fear as to his administration of affairs in Louisiana and Texas vanished when he proclaimed his purpose to enforce the law in the spirit in which it was enacted. From that moment it became evident that the enemies of reconstruction would derive no succor from any action of his, and that the preliminary measures of General Sheridan would be allowed to proceed without hindrance or essential alteration.

In his talk with our correspondent, General Hancock reveals yet more freely his determination to disregard all attempts to adapt the nation to disregard all attempts to adapt the administration of the law to any forced inter-pretation of its meaning, or to any end at variance with his idea of duty. He promises to weigh fairly any suggestion that may be offered by his "military superiors," provided they do not conflict with the spirit of the law. The law, however, places the rearons thilly of The law, however, places the responsibility of

missioners and certain Indian chiefs, was in portant, although it did not result in a det nite treaty. The hostile tribes responsible for the current troubles are the Sioux bands the North, and the Cheyennes, Kiowas, an Comanches of the South. The former roat along and above the valley of the Nort Platte; the latter along and below the valle of the Arkansas. But all these tribes, whose hunting grounds join and intersect each other in the country between the two rivers mer tioned, make common cause for war of th encroachments of white travel along the stage wagon, and advancing Pacific Railroad route between. The Sioux, besides, are irritate against the wagon route opened through th Powder river country from Fort Larsunte the gold region of Montana, which country they have long occupied, and to which the have an undot.bled title. This explanatio will enable those who take the trouble glance at a map to understand the gist of th difficulty. At the recent council, Generals Sherms

and Harney, Commissioner Taylor, Senate Henderson, and most of the other Commission ers were present. Some of the most note chiefs of the Sioux and Cheyenne tribes a peared, stated their grievances, and mad their demands. The latter were, that th Powder river road, the Smoky Hill Railwa route-which runs along the valley of the Smoky Hill fork of the Arkansas river-an the building of the Southern Pacific Railros altogether, should be abandoned. The nois of the locomotive, said Spotted Tail and othe spokesmen, drove away their game. presence of soldiers provoked war. "Tak away your blue-coats and your whistling en gines, and then come unarmed, and trav peaceably among us, and have your throa cut in the good old-fashioned way !" was effect the ultimatum of these wily warrior 'And for the present, as some sort of securit for such a future state, give us plenty presents, ammunition and arms."

In response to which modest suggestion General Sherman is reported to have said:-

In response to which modest suggestatum General Sherman is reported to have said:— "We believe the time mas come when you should begin, and with our assistance you can in a tew years have herds of cattle and horses like the Clerckees, Creeks, and Chectaws, and enn save corn fields, like the Pates. Yanktons Shawhees, and Poltawattomies. You see for youtselves that the white men are advancing in will directions, and spite of all you can do they will soon have all the gami land of thi country, so that unless you choose a nome now it may be too late next year. The railroad of the Platte will be built, and that up the Smoky Hill also. If you are damaged we must bar you in full, and if your young men attempt to interfiere, the Great Father, who, ont of kind ness to you, has heretofore held back the whith soldiers and people, will let them ont, and you will be swept out of existence. We therefore propose to let the whole Sloux nation (you in cluded) scleet a country on the Missonir river propose to held have forever, and we propose to alloy you to keep out all white men, except suc traders and agents as you may choose, there to cultivate the land, build houses, and rais herds of ponies, caffie, sheep, etc. W propose to halp you there as long as yo need help, and to let you have any kind rais houses. We could teach you chidren to rea and write. We also propose to first the chert of rais houses. Kiowas Comanches, and Southern to rea and write. We also propose to first the chert and write. We could teace you confirm the Che comes, Klowas, Comanches, and Southern I dians, similar homes in the country below i Arkansas, and if any of you prefer that could

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