SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS-COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TRLEGRAPH.

The Ohio Election-A Reconstruction of the Republican Party.

From the N. Y. Herald, The trials of our late stupendous civil war have lifted the people of this country far above the politicians. The results of the late elections, looking simply at the offices involved and the individuals chosen to fill them, amount to little or nothing; but in a moral and political view they turn over a new leaf and open a new chapter in American history. From Pennsylvania to Indiana, as by a sort of spontaneous combustion, we see the same general popular reaction against the excesses of radical fanaticism; but in the returns from Ohio, in which last year's Republican majority of forty thousand disappears, we have a splendid dissolving view of Mr. Chase and his board of radical engineers and their Presidential programme of universal negro suffrage and

Southern negro supremacy. This verdict of Ohio, with an emphasis which cannot be misunderstood, rules Mr. Chase and his extreme radical negro doctrine and theories out of the Presidential canvass of 1868. Forty thousand majority in the hitherto impregnable radical State of Ohio-forty thousand, more or less, against engrafting upon the State constitution an amendment establish ing universal negro suffrage-is a Northern protest against this thing which demands nothing less than a change of front by the masses of the Republican party, and a change of leaders. Messrs. Chase, Wade, Stevens, Sumner, Colfax, Chandler and Company, like the managing Copperheads of the Democratic party, have been "weighed in the balances and found wanting." The handwriting is fixed on the wall against the demoralizing and disorganiz ing schemes and dogmas of both these factions -Copperheads and radicals-rejected, each in turn, by the unfalling judgment of an intelligent people. The one hundred thousand majority in Ohio against Vallandigham, in the midst of the war, is hardly more emphatic than forty thousand, or thirty thousand, or

whatever it may be, from the same people,

against Mr. Chase and his congeners in the

midst of peace. The voice of Ohio on this direct test of universal or unqualified suffrage is the voice of the North, and it is given as a warning to all concerned in the coming Presidential contest. What, then, are the sensible, practical men, rank and file, of the Republican party called upon to do? They are simply called upon to reorganize and take a new departure, men and measures, for the Presidential campaign. Universal negro suffrage, rejected by Ohio in 1867 by thirty or forty thousand majority, must be superseded by the constitutional amendment, endorsed by Ohio in 1866 by forty odd thousand majority. In 1852, on Henry Clay's great compromise measures on the slavery question, poor Pierce and the Democracy against the conqueror of Mexico as the Whig candidate, carried the country, North and South, as by acclamation. But, departing in 1854 from the instructions of the people and persisting in this folly, the Democracy, on the slavery issue, were torn to pieces in 1860 among the clashing elements of their Charleston Convention. The great body of the Republican party, in being carried by of negro worship, are now warned of the same danger, and in season to avoid a similar disaster. Their safety lies in casting out these impracticable and implacable radical leaders, in cutting loose from their destructive schemes and fallacies, and in recognizing and following

the instructions of the people. The Republican Convention of Maryland, in nominating General Grant as its Presidential candidate, points out the way of safety and success. General Grant may be pronounced the embodiment of the genuine Union sentiment of the country. Above all the disturbing factions, elements, and embarrassments of the hour, like a commanding and well-known light-house, through the fog, and rain, and darkness he looms up in bold and cheering relief. Resistless in the field, sagacious in conneil, cool and collected in any emergency, and practical in everything, he needs no inge niously constructed platform to rally a great national party around him. In the very fact, however, that he is unacceptable to the radical fanatical school of Chase, Phillips, Sumner, Stevens and their brotherhood, lies his greatest strength. On any other candidate, and with any other platform than that embodied in the name and patriotic record of General Grant the conservatives of the Republican party run the hazards of being divided upon two or three candidates, as were the disjointed Democracy in 1860, and as were the distracted opposition

elements in 1856 and in 1836. The conservative Union Republicans and Democrats of the great Union war party of 1861 will cut loose from Chase and his bink clique, from visionary Copperheads and radical Jacobins, and will rally under the banner of Grant, as the old Democracy rallied under General Jackson, cut Nick Biddle and his bank, Calhoun and his nullifiers, and sent them all adrift and marched on to victory. This is the road to the reconstruction of our political parties, and of the Union, and of our domestic and foreign policy, under a new dispensation adapted to the demands of the age and the great revolution through which we have passed and of that into which we are now passing. This is to be the sequel of these late elections and of the impressive verdict of Ohio against universal and immediate negro suffrage. It all means a new national party in the name of the Union and General Grant, his election in a popular whirlwind, and a settlement of all our present difficulties under his administration.

Honor to Ohio.

From the N. Y. Tribune. The Republicans of Ohio elected their Governor in 1865 by 30,000 majority, and gave their State ticket last year-by the powerful help of Andrew Johnson and Mayor Monroea round 40,000. The extra 10,000 would probably have slipped away this year; but, with an ordinary canvass and no unusual issue, they could not have failed to succeed on every ticket by at least 20,000 majority. They have not been cursed with corrupt legislators, as their brethren in other great States have been; they were little distracted by local issues, save that personal rivalries as to the pending United States Senatorship were quite likely to hurt their Legislative tickets in several countlesas they did. They had simply to stand still in order to be sure of an easy canvass and a

certain triumph. They chose not to stand still, but to advance. They were committed to the principle of manhood suffrage by the action of their chosen representatives at home and in Congress, and

by the logic of their position. When the Cop-perheads were supporting Vallandigham for Governor and doing their utmost to break down the war for the Union, the Republicans called the blacks to do their best into . ranks of the nation's defenders, and the summons was nobly responded do. Denied a voice in directing the Government he fought to uphold, proscribed, despised, spit upon, the negro took up his musket and went to the front, while Copperheads were fleeing to Canada and skulk ing in every direction to evade the draft. Hence, the late Legislature of Ohio, by a party vote, passed an amendment to the State Constitution providing that color should no longer be a test of political rights-that a black, it a loyal, worthy citizen, should vote, and that a deserter or draft-sneak should not. That Amendment was properly submitted to the people to be ratified or rejected at the late

Of course, it was understood that we were to lose by it—how much, could only be deter-mined by the result. But the lower half of the State, and especially the southeastern counties, were originally and largely settled from Virginia and Kentucky; and it was notorious that many of the Republicans would resist negro suffrage, while every Democrat would do his utmost to defeat it. The Republicans, therefore, with everything at stake, including Mr. Wade's seat in the Senate, acepted—in fact, challenged—an issue which they might have postponed, and thus transformed into a hazard what before was a certainty. They did what was right and just when they could not fail to lose by it, when trimming and a low expediency would have insured them against all danger. They have faults that might have harmed them, but did not; they suffered because they nobly dared to do right a little sooner than all who have hitherto acted with them were ready to do it. They have lost their Legislature-they came very near losing their State ticket-because they were in advance of their time.

"What fools!" exclaim the men wise in their own generation, who can conceive no other end of political effort but to secure and enjoy power-who test all things by their immediate practical results-"why not, at least, put off the question of negro suffrage to a more convenient season?"—as if a party, that has a genuine life, were not always sloughing of dead matter, and educating the masses to consider justice first, and success afterwards. What individual ever acted nobly without daring and suffering? Who does not realize that the best acts of his life were those most nisconceived, maligned, traduced, howled at f the Ohio Republicans did not realize that black suffrage would be a heavy load to carry, they deserve less honor than we freely accord

them. But they did know it. They deliberately chose to be right rather than safe. They chose to fight a doubtful battle for a great and good end, rather than accept a cheap and certain but relatively unimportant success. And, as the universe is not a product of chance, but under moral government, we feel assured that events will prove them wise as well as right. We predict that their present reverse will prove their permanent advantage -that they will rise from it strengthened and invigorated, and look back on it as we do on the Bull Run of 1861 and the McClellau of 1862. We only ask those who doubt to wait

The President and the Cabluct.

From the N. Y. Times. Intimations grow more frequent and authoritative that the President intends to change his Cabinet. The result of the recent elections is said to have prompted him to this course; and under the same instigation, if he changes it at all, he is expected to make it up wholly from the Democratic party.

We see no very strong political objections which anybody can have to this, except perhaps the Democrats themselves. The present members of the Cabinet would probably be quite willing to quit positions which for a year past must have been anything but agreeable. The Republican party gains nothing by their remaining, nor can it lose anything by their leaving. The Democrats who may succeed them will come into possession of very little power, for the Civil Office bill of last session puts the whole paironage of the country out of their reach, so long as the Senate is controlled by the Republicans. Such a change as is suggested would render the Democratic party more directly responsible for the measures of the Administration than it has been hitherto, and would thus do the country a service. Public affairs are sure to go wrong when no political party is responsible for their management.

There is a preliminary difficulty to be encountered. Under the Civil Office bill aiready referred to, members of the Cabinet cannot be removed at the mere will of the President; and though they may be suspended from office upon charges of misconduct, that suspension may be terminated by the Senate when it meets in December. Under ordinary circumstances, a request from the President to resign would be promptly acceded to, as it certainly should be. But where great interests are at stake, and the policy to be inaugurated by a new Cabinet is so unwise as that of the President is held to be, Secretaries may feel warranted in declining voluntarily to relinquish their posts. Mr. Stanton did so, and his exmay be followed by others. In that ease the President seems to be quite powerless

in the premises. There is one department of the Government with which we hope he will not tamper. The administration of the finances of the country is at once too important and too delicate a matter to be made the football of contending parties; and our finances are just now in a critical condition. Mr. McCulloch has administered the department with steady good judgment and decided success. His measures have been prodent and wise, and if they can be steadily followed out, will give the country as much relief as can reasonably be expected under the heavy burdens it is compelled to bear. The country is satisfied with his official action, and would look with distrust and apprehension upon his displacement. Its credit has been sustained, and that, too, without seriously impairing the resources or embarrassing the industry of the nation. To bring in a new man now, who should reverse the policy he has pursued, would have a most damaging effect upon the credit of the Government and the general welfare of the country.

In no other department of the Government would any change be so disastrous, Mr. Seward has managed our foreign relations with so much ability and success during the last six years, that his retention would seem to be a matter of common justice; and the country would probably be glad to have the few remaining subjects of difference with foreign powers settled by the same strong and prudent hand that has steered us through the dangers and difficulties of the past. But gratitude is a weakness to which neither great communities nor their rulers are subject; and both are quite apt to find obligations to any one man, after a time, exceedingly irksome and aunoying. Mr. Seward would probably retire upon

the first intimation that his place was wanted; country like this, of rapid growth. In a period and the peace of the country would not be of convulsive turbulence and upheaving. and the peace of the country would not be endangered if the powers and duties of his place were confided to other hands. None of the other Cabinet officers would probably be very seriously missed; and we presume all o them would consider a chance of retirement as a decided relief.

The True Issue in Europe.

From the N. Y. Times. French intervention alone prevented the reconstruction of Germany and the perfect unity of Italy a year ago: French intervention has been the chief obstacle to the peaceful achievement of those ends; but French intervention, active as it now is, is powerless to prevent the early attainment of these devoutly edly to be wished for consummations. "Italian unity" and "German consolidation" are predetermined facts; they must come through peaceful political agitation or through much oloodshed-it is for Louis Napoleon to say which. The first notes of a great and bloody war in Europe, or the last cadences of that warlike strain heard a year ago, are now being sounded in Europe. If Napoleon decides that they are the prelude to another war, then, in all human probability, when the last notes shall have been heard, North and South Germany, with their forty millions of inhabitants and over one million of trained soldiers, wil have become the reconsolidated German Empire; Italy will have grown into a formidable kingdom, with Rome for its capital; the temporal authority of the Pope will have ended; nd the power of France will have been broken like that of Austria was a year ago. By the war of 1866 Prussia absorbed North

Germany, and but for French intervention in relieving Austria of the care of the Quadrillateral, and thus enabling her to concentrate her troops to meet the Prussians at Vienna, she would have absorbed all South Germany. French intervention thus prevented Prussis from dictating peace in the Austrian capital instead of at Prague. It prevented Italy from occupying Rome and dictating peace there, instead of accepting the compromising and dangerous "September Convention" at Venice, by which to secure the peaceful evacuation of Rome by the French soldiers who garrisoned it, Victor Emanuel bound himself not to forcibly possess himself of the city, not to allow Italian volunteers to take it, and through which treaty he has been finally compelled, in the September of the next year following the date of this unfortunate compromise, to arrest Garibaldi and his son, and stop the invasion of the Papal States by the Italian volunteers which the sturdy old leader

had organized. But French intervention which thus brought the wars in Germany and Italy to abrupt conclusions, was not potent to stop agitation on the issues which created those wars. Ever since the peace of Prague Bismark has labored successfully for German consolidation, and the successful issue of that agitation, begun in war, continued in peace, and threatening to culminate in a second war, is near at hand. Ever since the "September Convention" was signed, amid the protests of Garibaldi and his adherents, the "party of action" have been endeavoring to annul it; and at last, abandoning peaceful measures, the present complicated

situation in Italy has been brought about.

And it is not such a very complicated condition of affairs, after all. Garibaldi's organized avasion is already a failure. Victor Emanuel has fulfilled his treaty obligations, but the revolt in Viterbo is, fultially, a success, and the two or three battles which have been fought have been victories over the Papal forces. Italy has refused aid to the Pope against his revolting subjects. Napoleon at the outset, in reply to the entreaties of the Pope for assistance, notified Victor Emanuel that he must observe the "September Convention" and not occupy Rome. Victor Emanuel, while yet enforcing these obligations, forese ing the occupation of Rome by the insurgents, has asked to be released from these renty obligations; and Prussia, giving us a climpse of the terms of the secret treaty which t has with Italy, has declared the request to be just, and intimated an intention to support Victor Emanuel in his demand. Napoleon finds that the "September Convention" was faulty in not providing for a revolt of the Pope's subjects; and now he must either see Rome the capital of reunited Italy or prevent it by a war with Italy and Germany. The last news intimates that the Frenchman is wise as well as wily; and that he has agreed with Francis Joseph-singular alliance of counting and imbecility-that Victor Emanuel shall have his Rome, but that the Pope shall direct its civil administration as heretofore while he lives, and that his temporal power shall end with him. And no doubt, in thus submitting to an uncontrollable and inexorable necessity, Napoleon will endeavor to make it appear that he dictates to Europe, and that French intervention is still the terror of that continent.

There will, we think, be no war of any magnitude; but whether there is or not, that ause which this country is most interested in -that cause which this country most intently watches in Europe-will be triumphant. The liberalism which has reformed England united Italy, and reconstructed Germany, and has given its old Constitution to Hungary, will pursue the even but vigorous tenor of its way until it develops into strong and healthy and true and powerful republicanism, and imperialism will the no less surely and certainly grow weak and die out, unregretted and uncared for. It is already in its dotage, not merely in Spain and Austria, where its power has long been crushed, but even in France, where it is most vigorous; and the fall of Pope will virtually mark the death of imperialism.

The Victorious and Progressive De-

mocracy. From the N. Y. World. It is a trite saying (we suppose it has stood wear enough to become trite because it is so true) that sudden prosperity is a severer trial to virtue than adversity. Though spoken of individuals, it is more true of parties; since parties, instead of being controlled by such of their members as possess the greatest steadiness and moderation, are often led by the most eager, impulsive, and active. We rejoice as much as any Democrats can in the recent encouraging triumphs; but our joy is deep and sober rather than exultant. We are not unmindful of the temptations which beset a party when giddy elation comes so suddenly after a ong series of depressing defeats. By forecast and wisdom these great successes will become the vestibule of a resplendent future for the Democratic party; but, on the other hand, passion and mental narrowness may make them the buds of a premature spring, nipped by renewed frosts, which blight all hope of utumnal fruits.

The Democratic party must be wise enough o recognize the moulding influence of great vents on public opinion, and the permanence of some of their consequences. Even in the most tranquil times, society and public opinion are in a state of constant and, in a new

opinion advances with an accelerated velocity. It is not possible that the mighty struggles of the last six years should not leave a deep imprint on succeeding times. The future of this country is not to depend on the opinions of men who were over forty when the war broke out, but on the opinions of those who were under thirty. Though built after the same plan, our older men will say, like those of Israel, that the second temple is not like the first. We must, nevertheless, recognize facts. It is a fact that all the flower of our young men were engaged in, and educated by, the war. All the youthful vigor, daring, enterprise, love of adventure, thirst for honor, pride of country, marched with our armies n the army they lived a deeper life than falls to the lot of ordinary slugglish generations. Their whole manhood was a hundred times put to the proof; the experience of four years was more than the common experience of a life. And it came at an age when the character is yet pliant and yielding; when opinions are either not formed, or have not settled into dogmatic stiffness. The mould was applied while the clay was yet soft, and it will continue to bear the im-There is an ineffaceable difference between the generation of men that is going out and the younger generation that is coming in; and no party which ignores this difference will be in sufficient sympathy with the rising future to guide its politics. Our elderly men, whose habits of thought became fixed before the war, will be every year deserting, in obelience to a summons they cannot resist. As between the old epoch and the new, they will e a constantly dwindling minority; but as between the living and the dead, they are "passing over to the majority." Their indurated habits of thought will pass with them, and the country will be ruled by the generation whose character was shaped in these later stirring times.

The Democratic party, in its brightest and palmiest days, was preeminently the party of progress. In spite of the croakings and forebodings of its opponents, it extended the suf-frage to white citizens till suffrage became universal; it abolished imprisonment for debt; removed the property qualification for office; made the State judiciary elective; brought new territory into the Union until its original area was quadrupled; made vigorous war upon the protective system, although many of its early leaders had supported it; and until the slavery question became predominant, its favorite employment was to supply fresh fuel to the engine rather than to put on the brakes. In complaisance to its Southern wing, it made mistakes on the slavery question, and lost the advantage of leadership. In its attempts to prevent opinion advancing too fast, it fell ehind; and there could not be a more fatal blunder at present than an attempt to carry the public opinion of the country back to the point where it stood when, to save the train from destruction in moving down a declivity, the Democratic party went from the engine to

the brakes. The tendency of successful parties is to forget that society never stands still; that opinion is ever advancing; that the policy of past generation can never exactly tally with the wants of the present. The excesses of the Roundheads, who beheaded Charles I, planted the seeds of the reaction which restored his son. The restored Stuarts, who had not the wisdom to discern that they were in a new epoch, reasserted the royal prerogative in as high a tone as if the Commonwealth had not intervened, and thereby lost the throne forever. Modern France teaches the same lesson. The severity of antecedent oppression caused the violent excesses of the Revolution, which, in turn, paved the way for the despo the First Napoleon. The restored Bourbons, like the restored Stuarts, learned nothing and forgot nothing, and a new revolution in 1830

swept them from the throne, We admire the old Democratic leaders as fervently as anybody can whose admiration is rational. But we trust we do not admire them in the same stupid spirit in which pedants and literary nincompoops admire the ancient classics. We would not servilely copy their policy, but rather emulate the spirit, the udgment, the attention to present circumstances, the recognition of popular good sense, the adaptation of means to ends, which made them wise in their generation, as we ought to be in ours. It is the very essence of Democracy that the people of every generation are fully competent to manage their own affairs. Such parts of a former policy as are suited to present circumstances we hope we shall have the wisdom to adopt and continue; not, however, from mere respect to authority, but because we have a clear perception of their fitness. Such parts of an old policy as are not adapted to the new epoch, we trust we shall have the independence to discard, thus honoring our predecessors by imitating their self-reliant example, and by bringing fresh faculties to bear on actual circumstances. The emulous artist most truly honored his master by feeling that he, too, was a painter.

The most illustrious example of far-sighted sagacity, and wise moderation in victory, to be found in the history of political parties, was perhaps furnished by Jefferson, the father of the Democratic party. His consummate wisdom in the hour of triumph so strengthened and consolidated the party, that it remained in power the greater part of the next sixty years. He had the reach of thought to see that a "vibrating ascendancy" would give no stable character to the policy of the Government, and he built for durability. Instead of attempting to carry the tower to a giddy, toppling height, he broadened its base and gave it the solidity of a pyramid. He accepted some things in the policy of his predecessor which he and his followers had opposed at the time of their adoption; he aimed to allay party bitterness and to conciliate the Federalists, in his eloquent inaugural address, containing the famous exclamation, "We are all Repub licans, we are all Federalists;" he refused to adopt a proscriptive course in regard to offices, causing his partisans to grum-ble, "Our President lacks energy—it would have been different if Burr had been elected." He thus prevented a reaction, elected." brought many Federalists into his party, and insured its ascendancy for a period long enough to give it a moulding influence on the institutions of the country. General Knox was the first of the Federal leaders to change sides, being won over by the admirable temper of the inaugural. In reply to his letter, Jefferson wrote:- "It is with great satisfaction that I learn from all quarters that my inaugural address is considered as holding out a ground for conciliation and union. I am the more pleased with this because the opinion therein stated as to the real ground of difference among us (to wit: the measures rendered most expedient by the French enormities) is that which I have long entertained. I was always satisfied that the great body of those called Federalists were real Republicans as well as Federalists.' The reasons why the Democratic party

should now act in the same large and catholic spirit are manifold. Our institutions have had such a terrible wrench that they can never be righted by the merely fitful ascendancy of the Democratic party. If we exhibit

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a wise moderation and a liberal spirit, we shall be rapidly recruited. Multitudes of Republicans have been former Democrats, and still agree with us except in regard to some of the questions which have grown out of the war. We must make it not difficult, but easy, for them to return to their former associations. An original, ingrained Democracy, modified but not eradicated by the civil convulsions of the last six years, is probably the type of politics best adapted to the present condition of the country. The great want of the country is conciliation; and we must set the example of it. Concord and fraternal harmony are not to come from the absolute triumph of any set of extreme principles. Let no men of honest impulses and natural candor, whether they live in the North or the South, be humiliated when it is possible to spare them in consistency with the general weal. The soldiers who have fought in the two armies, if they were left to act alone, would come to a spontaneous reconciliation.

They have for each other the mutual respect -in many cases the mutual admiration-of brave men; they have the honorable sympathy and the magnanimity of the soldierly character; and the mass of them were too young, on both sides, to have become bigots to any rigid set of political dogmas before their character was subjected to the moulding influence of the war. And it must be borne in mind that the men thus trained comprise the best abilities, the best blood, the greatest arder of enterprise, and the most devoted patriotism (mistaken though it may have been on the Southern side) in the country. Ten years hence, when Thad. Stevens is dead, and Jeff. Davis is dead, and most of the old stagers shall have gone to their account, the young men who served in the two armies will be in the full vigor of maturity, and the leading spirits in our public councils. Our politics will then be controlled more by manly good sense than by traditional ideas, as the men in power will belong to the new era. If the Democratic party is wise, it will so order its action that the inevitable progress of events and of public opinion will work for it and with it, not against it.

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from leasts to keep walls free from daufaness, and
decks, tanks, casterous and joints of every kind tight,
and bottoms or ships, etc. from worms, onds of posts
that go into the earth sound, and materials generally
from corroding and decay, this Paint stands unequalled. For sale in caus or casks, ready for use at
all times, and suited to all climates.

JOSEPH LEEDS.