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## SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT YOPICS-COMPILED EVERY DAT FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

#### The Northern Pacific Rallway. From the N. Y. Tribune.

While the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Bailroad Companies are pushing on their moads, both from the eastern and western Points of departure, with amazing energy and success, the Northern Company has as yet Rone little more than enlighten the country on the comparative advantages of its route over any other. The reason is plain. The former has a large Government subsidy, a loan of United States credit, while the latter has only a simple land grant. These roads lie at all points nearly six hundred miles apart, and, for local trade, could never be rivals. If there be any jealousy between them, it is because he Northern road, on account of its shorter distance and easier grades, must eventually be the great highway of international commerce between Europe and Asia, and between Asia and our Atlantic seaboard. But we do not propose to discuss the relative prospects of the roads from any point of view.

The vast importance of either to the solid and permanent growth of the Union, to its commercial prosperity and its defensive strength, is beyond any possible estimate. In the midst of the general satisfaction which hails the rapid construction of the one, we simply desire to call attention to the grand resources which the other is likely to command to the stanendons empire in extent and in matural wealth which it is destined to develop. In the success of the latter enterprise, New York and New England have a deep interest, worthy of their most practical consideration. The commercial supremacy of the city of New York can never, of course, be disturbed, but It may be enhanced; and it seems perfectly pvident that, should the trade of Asia and the great Northwest be poured into the lakes which wash the northern boundary of the State, whatever is broken in bulk, or distributed to the Atlantic States, will be drawn off to the advantage of this metropolis.

The Company is authorized to build a road from the head of Lake Superior, on a line north of the forty-fifth degree of north latitude, to Puget's Sound, throwing off a branch down the Columbia Valley to Portland, Oregon, from a point on the main line less than 300 miles from its western terminus. This is not only the shortest route across the continent, connecting lines of water communication, but its termini are nearer, the one to Europe, and the other to Asia, than those of any other. Seattle, at the head of Puget's Sound, is one of the finest and safest harbors on the globe, with a broad and deep channel to the ocean. In the distances to Amoor, Shanghai, Canton, and Calcutta, Seattle has an average advantage of 260 miles. Besides, the prevailing winds of the Pacific compel all sailing vessels to enter the Straits of Fuca; and thus, for them, Seattle has practically an advantage of 700 miles. Seattle is three hundred miles nearer to Chicago by the Northern route than San Francisco by the Central; or, if we compare distances to the commencement of lake navigation, at the heads of Lakes Michigan and Superior respectively, the difference is more than 700 miles in favor of the Northern route. But is this route between termini so much nearer to each other, and so much better situated with regard to the great commercial points of both hemispheres than those of any other, entirely practicable ? We no longer propound the question in doubt, nor attempt to solve it upon imperfect data. United States surveyors, explorers, travellers, and scientific men unite, so far as we are able to learn, in declaring it not only practicable, but compa-tively easy and desirable. Leaving the shores of Lake Superior, it will pass for 1010 miles, to the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains, through a fertile and beautiful country, every square mile of which will sustain a dense population, producing wheat, rye, corn, barley, potatoes, and grass, of a superior quality, and in great abundance. Here the mountains are crossed at an elevation of 2500 feet less than on the Central. Even on this mountainous section, there is much fine timber and excellent wheat lands, while the grades ave not more difficult than some of those on the Baltimore and Ohio. Here the mountains are so low that the miners have actually conducted the waters of the Missouri across the divide in little ditches, through the Cascade Range, just east of the Sound, which it was feared might prove a serious obstacle. The recent accurate surveys have developed three passes, either of which is en-tirely feasible, and the summit of the middle, or Snoqualmie Pass, is but 3000 feet above the sea. The snow on these uplands, unlike those on the same range a few hundred miles further south, are never more than two and a half feet deep. They do not fall soft, and pack hard, but dry and light, presenting no difficulty to the snow-plough. Grand lines of railroad are now in operation in various parts of the world where the snows are heavier and the climate far more severe than upon this. From a point on a line with Fort ramie to the Pacific, nature has provided the tepid winds of the ocean, and numberless boiling springs, which make the atmosphere milder and warmer than it is eight or ten degrees further sonth. This road passes through no vast sage-plains or sandy deserts, but through a country everywhere propitious, everywhere inviting to either the grain producer or the stock raiser, whose most ungenial portions sustain animals by winter mpon grass alone. It is intersected in four great navigable rivers. It abounds in beauti-ful lakes, and streams of pure water, teeming with fish and wild fowl. When we add to the landscape grandeur of these boundless and luxuriant plains, agreeably diversified with water, wood, and hill, the prodigal yield of food for man and beast which is there, promised to the settler, it would seem that in no land under the sun can the immigrant find a more charming home. When this road strikes the Red river of the North in the neighborhood of Fort Abercrombie, it will receive the trade of that stream, which flows north into Lake Winnipeg, a body of water as large as Lake Michigan. Into the same lake falls the Saskatchewan, a magnificent stream which drains the British Territory from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Slave Lake, and giving, with the Red river and the lake itself, a continuous navigation of over two thousand miles in length, whose outlet must be over this road and through Lake Superior. Again, when it reaches the great bend of the Missouri, about four hundred miles from the west end of Lake Superior, a theusand miles of that mighty stream to the north alone, from Fort Benton to the point of crossing, immediately becomes its tributary. In short, were we to state all or half the grand facts which favor the. enterprise in hand, the prodigious sum of

that which is possible, and may be accom- [ no other chance than dependence upon their ] plished, would startle the imagination. Out of the territories of the United States it seeks to develop, eleven great States will be added to the Union, containing some of the richest mineral districts on the continent. Montana, Idaho, and Dakota are as yet but a bare promise of the future. While politically the British possessions are the property of another power, commercially they are ours, if we choose to make them so, and this fact is one of stupendous importance, whether we consider their extent, their natural capa-bilities, or the trade they are destined to From the British line to the maintain. sources of the Mackenzie, stretches a magnificent wheat country a thousand miles in breadth; much of it upon a prairie, and ready

for the plough. Lake Superior projects into the far Northwest several hundred miles further than any other navigable water, and at its head there will be seen a city rivaling any of those which in the ages gone by had enjoyed the commerce of the East before it. West and northwest of it, the mighty area we have described, inexhaustible in its minerals and its agricultural productiveness, will pour its unimagined wealth of exchanges into and through it. With fifty bushels of wheat to the acre, as we find it on the Saskatchewan, what may not be predicted of the point which, by geographical necessity, is to handle the products of a region so vast? Here will be the largest grain elevators ever seen, and that trade which has built so many flourishing cities will build another where nature has made a depot for the most extensive grain-growing country on the globe. In the Bay of Superior, at the month of the St. Louis, we have the largest harbor on the lake, land-locked and perfectly sheltered. It now admits lake-boats of the heaviest tonnage. and to what extent it may be artifically improved we do not know; but an appropriation for this purpose was made by the last Con-gress. A city, on the point of land formed by the St. Louis and the Nemadji, has an elevation of thirty-four feet, and will possess nearly forty miles of water-frontage, where vessels may discharge their freights on all the four sides of a square. The distance to St. Paul, the centre of Northwestern railways, is only a hundred and thirty-five miles, while from Chicago it is over three hundred and fifty; and when you are at Chicago you are no nearer to Europe or the Atlantic ports than when at Superior. Various railroads are projected, or course of construction, to connect the Upper Mississippi with the head of the lakes. and the work on the St. Paul end of the St. Paul and Superior road is rapidly progressing.

In view of the facts that we are an essentially pioneer people, that we plant and build wherever nature permits, and especially where she invites, and that we are annually reinforced by an increasing proportion of immi-grants from the northern latitudes of Europe peculiarly fitted for the settlement of the Northwest, it is fair to presume that this generation will see completed what we have only faintly sketched-the commerce of Asia and Europe passing over a grand highway connecting the Atlantic and Pacific, Lake Superior and Puget's Sound, the head-waters of the Mississippi, the Missouri, and the Columbia. with cities at either terminus, whose importance can only be measured by that of the trade they will control.

#### Progress of Southern Negro Reconstruction.

From the N. Y. Herald.

The passage of the new Reconstruction bill the work and hurry up into Congress the ten | making the total charge upon the Government

white friends. A war of races was not to be thought of." And so goes on the work of reconstruction in Louisiana. General Hancock's recent order, subordinating the military to the civil authorities and the laws (and which has resulted in his nomination for the succession by President Johnson), has evidently taken something of the conceit out of the ultra radicals, and given some hope to the conservatives of fair play. To get rid of him as soon as possible, the radical convention will doubtless make haste with the work before them and get under the wing of Congress as a full-blown reconstructed State.

In the Georgia Convention an ordinance has been adopted-which, it is understood, General Pope will enforce, in the absence of a stay law-to suspend all legal proceedings in the collection of private debts until the Convention can act further. That this will prove a popular measure we cannot doubt, inasmuch as before the organization of the Convention, Mr. Campbell (black man) moved "that all gentlemen who have aspirations for the Presidency of this Convention be requested to de fine their position on the relief question.' Among the latest proceedings of the Convention is a resolution requesting General Pope to remove the obnexious Governor Jenkins and to put a certain Mr. Bullook in his place, a request which General Pope will probably find requires a good deal of nice consideration. Under the spur of this new bill in Congress we may expect, however, that these little side issues will be dropped, and that the Convention will follow the example of Ala bama in pushing through their new constitu-tion. Oh, yes. "The work goes bravely on."

# The Question of Saving-How Much is Practicable ?

From the N. Y. Times.

The demand for retrenchment, as the ac companiment of reduced taxation, will be strong only so far as it is governed by intelligence. The necessities of the country must be considered not less than the convenience or interest of the people. Before fixing positively the maximum income of the Government, we should understand the probable minimum of its expenditure.

The national gathering of manufacturers at Cleveland has affirmed the feasibility of saving \$150,000,000 on the basis of the present income and ontgo; though precisely how this may be done does not appear. The same statement had previously received the indorsement of the St. Louis Board of Trade, whose Finance Committee furnishes an estimate which seems to indicate the data relied upon for the calculation. The initial point in the Committee's argument is the assumption that, with the war closed, the cost of the military and naval establishments may be reduced to the standard which sufficed in the former days of peace. Eight years ago, it is computed, these branches of the public service cost a sum in gold equal to less than fifty millions in currency at present rates; and we are told that "it is difficult to see why our navy should be much larger or more expensive now than it was then; or why, upon a peace estab-lishment, with the country tranquil and the people contented, the army should exceed by more than one-half its force at that time." The estimate therefore limits the army to thirty thousand men, at a cost of \$46,000,000, and the navy to its old standard at a cost of say \$20,000,000. Ninety millions are put by the House of Representatives to facilitate down as enough for all other expenditures,

enforced against the whites by military power, as the corner-stone of the Republican platform; and they will accept General Grant as the candidate if they can first force him upon that platform and if they can't do better. The Democrats have not yet succeeded in getting any platform or any candidate. Events yet to occur will probably do more to shape and control the action of both parties than any which have occurred hitherto.

One such is announced in the correspondence of the Anti-Slavery Standard. The letter is dated at Alexandria, Va. (very near Washington), and the following is an extract from it :---

"A movement is on foot to bring out General Butler for President, and Benjamin Wade for Vice-President, upon a thoroughly radical platform. That ticket, it is believed, would platform. That ticket, it is believed, would rally to its support the Southern radicals and true men of the North. I do not know how that would be; but it would be a ticket fit for radicals to vote for, and that is more than can be said in favor of some other tickets I have heard surgested heard suggested.

heard suggested. "Let Congress pursue the same course a few weeks longer it has for seven months in the past, and the Republican party need not worry itself about the next President. It will be de-Itight about the heat freadent. It will be do-feated, and a Democrat will fill the Presidential chair the next four years, and if the party aban-dons the principle of universal suffrage, it ought to be defeated, and every true radical will aid its defeat. On all questions of finance and foreign policy the Democratic party occu-ples as the resultion as the Republican metry

and foreign policy the Democratic party occu-ples as fair a position as the Republican party, and can be as safely trusted. The Republican party, under Grant, on a platform of expedi-ency in 1865, will share the fate of the Whig party under Scott, in 1852, on a platform of anti-agitation and availability. "A movement is now commenced for the call-ing of a Radical National Convention at Wash-ington, on the twenty-second of February next. It is proposed to organize a National Radical party, and adopt a platform of principles around which to raily in the tuture. The cow-ardice of Republicants in joining the Cepper-heads in an indorsement of the policy of Presi-dent Johnson, has made such a movement heads in an indorsement of the policy of Presi-dent Johnson, has made such a movements necessary. It is not proposed to nominate a ticket unless matters assume a new shape before that day, to make such nomination necessary.'

We hope this project will be carried out. It is square, straightforward, and above board. It responds more directly and distinctly to the political necessities of the day than any we have elsewhere met. It recognizes acual facts; in the current phraseology of the time, it understands and accepts the situation, and takes its measures accordingly.

The real issue before the country to-day is between a policy which recognizes and accepts the Constitution as the paramount rule of action, and one which virtually discards it as inadequate to the emergency, and accepts the abstract doctrines and sentiments ascribed to the Declaration of Independence in its stead. The Republican party has always hitherto held the former position. In all its formal declarations of principle and policy, it has been especially careful to keep within the restrictions and limitations of the Constitution, and the indications of its purpose to do so still, are what has caused this revolt against its authority on the part of the radical element.

will be held. We hope it will adopt a "thoroughly radical platform"-organize a radical party, and nominate Ben. Butler and Ben. Wade as its representative candidates. We shall then have one party in the field which knows what it wants, and goes straight ahead in its attempt to get it. If the radicals had taken this action two years ago, the country would have made much more progress towards a solution of its political difficulties than it has yet made; and if they will only take it now, the people will understand what they have to do hereafter. Those who approve the radical policy will know how to oppose it, will know how to meet it. And that

pose that he would have made a better book if he had had a "brown-stone front and his own carriage" in his eye as the "reward" of writing it ? What literary men come to on the Tiltonian theory is illustrated by the melancholy case of Sir Walter Scott, who having written four or five real books for the sake of writing them, spread them out into four or five-and-twenty poerer ones for the sake of money, and so wore out his life and broke his heart at last to buy upholstery. Nay, we have now with us an artist more con summate, yet from whose works we have all derived great and pure pleasure, of whom it may still be said, without charging him with intended infidelity to his art, that had he written half as many books he would have written twice as good ones, and that his books

have been thus doubled and diluted for pecuniary profit. The idea of the Independent about this thing is the same that moved a number of merchants in this city, at the outbreak of the war, to offer money to the extent, as we recollect it, of five hundred dollars, to the poet who should transcribe for them in a "national ode" the impulse that then thrilled the American people. These gentlemen knew that what they dealt in was marketable for money, and they seem not to have had a conception that there were wares which it could not command. The productions they got for their bid were just of the sort such a bid might have been expected to elicit, and just of the sort the Independent's "compensation" will always command. Or perhaps the explanation of that paper would be that the prize was too small; that the committee would have got an increase of the divine fire with each advance of their offer; that a thousand dollars would have got us just twice as good a hymn, and fifteen hundred one just thrice as good. How high does it think they would have had to offer to tempt some Tyrtous to write down such a song as that into which Rouget de l'Isle distilled the fervor and the fury of a France in revolt? "By Heavens," Burns said of his bundle of ballads, "they shall be either invaluable or of no value; do not need your guineas for them." That is a sentiment which the editor of the Independent probably does not understand. If he did, there might not be such an amazing difference as there is between the Scottish songs of Robert Burns and "The Sexton's Tale, and other Poems," of Mr. Theodore Tilton.

Nor is it in works of pure imagination alone that the rule holds. Whatever calling ministers to more than the physical wants of men demands a devotion on the part of its professors which, as no money can procure, so no money can requite. The driest drudgery of literature cannot be decently done if it is done The universities of Great Britain for hire. are the richest places of education on the globe. The amplest apparatus for study is there, the most sumptuous support for students, the completest exemption from the cares of this world. Here is a fair field, one would think, for the operation of the Tiltonian theory of petting and protection. Yet from these gilded We hope the Radical National Convention nurseries, since Bentley graduated more than two hundred years ago, there has not gone out a single great scholar. But in a garret in Dresden, during the last century, there lived a young German scholar "who shelled the peas for his dinner with one hand while he annotated his Tibullus with the other, and that was his endowment. But he was recognized soon to have done a great thing. His Franz name was Christian Gottlob Heyne." Bopp, who died the other day at Berlin, does the Independent suppose that money could have kept him for three-quarters of a century at work in laying bare the roots of language ; in establishing the brotherhood and tracing the descent of all our modern orders of speech; jece of information will be useful to both that money exists in sufficient quantities to classes and to the country at large. We hope most earnestly that the convention will be have recompensed him then, or to replace him now ? Not only can the love of money never inspire art, but in so far as the idea of pay Pork, Poems, and Piety. enters into the composition of any work art, in so far is the composition spoiled. Ata-A late Independent contains an article which lanta, in fact as in the fable, loses the race when the gilding of the apple allures her from the track, "Declinat cursus, aurumque volubile tollit." Not that artists are above avarice, but that art is above it. Turner was greedy of money, but he never allowed himself therefore to pander to the fancy of the purchasers of his pictures in the work he did. It is unnecessary to cite the many examples among the living and the dead of those who have pursued a contrary course. The pages of Lucretius and Horace bear testimony how genius may be degraded into licking the hand that feeds it, and how a worthless Memmins, and a worthless Mincenas may be rescued from just oblivion. The patron of our time is the public. Formerly servility bore fruit in flattery. Now it bears fruit in cant. Once unworthy artists were parasites. Now they are demagogues. Virgil celebrated Cæsar. The Independent sings "the loyal millions." The duty of the community towards the artist is, plainly enough, to give to his art honor and appreciation; to himself every furtherance for the prosecution of his art, food and raiment; and therewith, if he be an artist, he will be content. "A man of genius," the article we notice winds itself up, "ought to be set in the midst of comfort, like an Alderney cow in a meadow of clover." To the contrary of this, Schiller song of the muse:-To some she is the goddess great, To some the mlich-cow of the field; Their only care to calculate How much butter she will yield. And here again one may discover the difference between the poetry of Schiller and the poetry of the editor of the Independent. The most helnous part of the article is the inclusion in it of the clergy. The clergy are a body of men whose business it is to point out always to us the utter worthlessness as well as the evanescence of all our worldly aspirations. Surely they, less than any other class whatever, ought to have care what they shall eat or what they shall drink, or wherewithal they shall be clothed. The objects they think worth striving for are such before which all differences of earthly condition are of infinitesimal importance. Does the Inde-pendent pretend to dispute this? The Independent pretends to exist for the enforcement of this. It is a shocking solecism, then, for it to maintain that the ministry can be made more earnest or more effective by surrounding it with the creature comforts which are so utterly insignificant, and the state of mind it reveals in the religionist who wrote it, and the religionists who will eagerly accept it, is arrant infidelity. It was St. Peter who said to the Independent of the period, "Thy money perish with thee because thon hast thought that the kingdom of God may be purchased with money.' If our "men of genius" are to be Alderney cows, and cannot get on without plenteous "elover," and our teachers of religion are to become servants of God and Mammon jointly, and profess that they cannot get on without a "noble competence," let us hope and work for the speedy extinction of both these classes of men.

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outside Rebel States on the basis of negrosupremacy and a Southern negro radical balance of power, naturally attracts our attention to the progress of this business in the five Southern Military Districts.

The Alabama Reconstruction Convention has framed a constitution on the basis of negro equality, and adjourned. The results of the recent elections for a convention in each of the States of Florida, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Arkansas have not yet been fully reported, although we presume they will turn out to comprehend a majority in each case voting of all the registered voters, a very large majority of the votes cast for a convention, and a large majority of radicals, whites and blacks, as delegates, as in Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana.

The Virginia Reconstruction Convention is getting under way, and Senator Wilson, who has lately been down to Richmond, has doubtless given the managers some wholesome advice against such fanatical fellows as Hun-At all events, the Convention seems nicutt. disposed to proceed cautiously and carefully to business. Meantime, the Virginia white conservatives have just closed in Richmond an opposition Convention, at which the Rebel General Imboden stated that on the question of his right to the ballot-box he had secured a writ of mandamus from the United States Circuit Court, which he had served upon General Schofield, who had asked a month in which to form his opinion on the subject. General Imboden, however, had no idea that in pushing this question of suffrage in his case to the Supreme Court of the United States a decision would be secured declaring the law of Congress unconstitutional. This Conservative Convention has organized a system of action on the basis of the abolition of slavery and a white man's government, and as the whites have a registered majority of voters in Virginia, the main object in view is doubtless a general turnout when the time comes to vote down the constitution expected from General Schofield's radical Reconstruction Convention. Among the latest proceedings of this body

was a resolution from Mr. Hughes (black delegate) for the appointment of a committee to inquire into and report what should be done with disloyal landholders who refused to employ radical negroes, and who attempted to intimidate them in voting, which was discussed and referred. Absurd as this resolution may appear in regard to the question of employment, it involves a difficulty between white landholders and late slaveholders on the one hand, and black laborers and emancipated slaves on the other, which wears a very threatening aspect. That this difficulty can be settled on the basis of negro supremacy in the State government of Virginia, or any other Southern State, no same observer of passing events can believe.

In the Louisiana Reconstruction Convention the ignorant and fanatical negro radical delegates seem to be making considerable trouble. One of them, in a debate the other day-Cromwell by name, and Cromwell by nature on a small scale-declared himself ready for a war of races. "We don't intend," said he, "to git down on our knees and beg for our rights;' but "we will rule till de last one ob us goes down forebber. Gentlemens, much is said of annudder rebellution. I say if we can't git our rights on a full equality wid de whites, let it come-let de rebellation come." This belligerent African, howaver, was quickly taken down by a sensible conservative darkey, who argued that "three millions of blacks against thirty millions of whites left the blacks

something near \$160.000.000. Deducting these figures from the aggregate internal revenue of 1866, which amounted to nearly \$311,000,000, the Committee arrive at the conclusion that an annual saving is practicable to the extent of \$150,000,000. And this is the view now promulgated by the Cleveland Convention.

It is evident, however, that the calculation needs revision. Its primary hypothesis in regard to the army and navy is a little in advance of the time. If the whole country were tranquil, and the whole people contented, it would probably not be far removed from accuracy. But the population of ten States cannot be said to be contented. A strong undercurrent of discontent runs through all of them, and the tranquillity they exhibit is in a large degree due to the presence of the military When reconstruction shall have been power. liberalized and perfected, we may hope for peace without the presence of soldiers; but in the meantime nothing is gained by ignoring existing and very ugly facts. On this point we attach more weight to the opinion of General Grant than to the computations of the St. Louis financiers. General Grant has proved himself an economist of the first water; no officer of the Government has evinced the aptitude or determination which he has shown in cutting down expenditures. And his plans, after close revision, embrace a military force of 45,000 available men-being 15,000 more than the Western economists calculate upon in their statement of expenditures.

Besides, the other side of the account also presupposes a state of things that does not exist. The internal revenue of the current year will not reach the income from that source in 1866. The available margin will be much smaller than the estimate we are considering requires. As, therefore, the unavoidable expenditure exceeds the sum put forward by the gentlemen whose view the Cleveland Convention appears to have adopted, while the actual income from the sources they have named is less than they have supposed, we fear that the proposed saving of \$150,000,000 is for the present unattainable.

Probably Mr. Hooper's view of the case more truly represents the saving which is feasible. The limitation to \$300,000,000 which he proposes for the total national expenditure, would exhibit a saving of about \$117,000,000 on the estimates of the current fiscal year, and of \$\$1,000,000 on those of 1868-9. The retrenchment that shall make either of these amounts available will afford enormous relief to the taxpayers.

Tax reform, however, to be just or completely effective, should not be confined to the internal revenue system. That is the worst part of our fiscal arrangements, no doubt; its crudities and complications operate most directly to the detriment of domestic industry. But the full measure of relief will not be afforded until the errors and excesses of the tariff shall be corrected in the light of the economy which regards revenue as the first essential, and protection as an incident instead of the all-pervading principle.

#### Presidential Straws, From the N. Y. Times.

There certainly is a great deal of fog overhanging the political future, and especially the Presidential canvass. Neither of the political parties seems to be very certain of its precise position-either in regard to its platform or its policy. The most active section of the Republican party insist upon universal negro suffrage in the Southern States, to be

From the N. Y. World.

held.

is the plainest statement we have seen of one of the most prevalent and most pernicious misconceptions that are abroad. The burden of this complaint is that the classes which minister to the spiritual wants of mankind are not rewarded, in proportion to the importance of their functions, as well as the classes which minister to its merely material wants. Especially the Independent instances poets, editors, lecturers, and the clergy as scandalously underpaid. The friends of the editor of that paper call him a poet. Certainly he is an editor and a lecturer, and whether a professional preacher or not, is at least an active amateur at prayer-meetings and the like. What private griefs he has we therefore know, that made him do it. He puts the question finally in this bald way:-"We are acquainted with a gentleman who made a million dollars in one year by selling pork. Why then shall not an author make a quarter of a million by reciting his books ?" That is to say:—As the dignity of pork-selling is to the dignity of art, so are the dollars the pork-seller gets to the dollars the artist ought to get. Besides, urges the Independent, the higher wages we offer the better work we procure; and the mute inglorious Miltons who pack pork would devote themselves to poetry and piety instead, if their labors in those fields were as adequately compensated.

Had stuff of this sort struck our notice in a secular journal, or had we heard it from a writer or a painter, we should have thought its author had a very sorry notion of his vocation; so sorry as to demonstrate that he had altogether mistaken that vocation. But what shall we say when we find in a paper whose ostensible object is to promote piety, an appeal, not only that artists shall be aggrandized in order that art may flourish, but that preachers may prosper so God may be better served? Certainly it is safe to say, for one thing, that when a literary man bemoans himself that he does not make as much money as a pork-packer, literature will be advantaged, however it may be with pork-packing, by his taking himself out of the one and into the other.

The truth is, art cannot be paid with money. Writing poetry and packing pork may have some similarity in the eyes of the editor of the Independent, but in fact they are as different as the appetite which poetry appeases is from the appetite which pork appeases. They are incommensurable quantities. The value of the one cannot be reckoned in the coin of the other. The rewards of material industry are money. In art, "the reward of a thing well done is to have done it." No man can ever make an artist who does not first of all feel this. "Hath this fellow no feeling of his business ?" The idea of appraising Shakespeare's plays, for instance, by the same standard with which we measure the value of Stewart's muslins, is so palpable an absurdity that it is odd a man can be found dull enough to undertake a comparison of the merit of the two things. Really how many dollars does the Independent consider "Paradise Lost" to have been worth ! What John Milton got for it was "ten pounds paid by instalments, and a rather close escape from death on the gallows." Does the Independent sup-

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