

2 SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED WEEKLY BY THE EVENING TELEGRAPH

Our Terms are Unconditional Surrender.

From the N. Y. Tribune. Loud and deep are the curses hurled from the defeated and broken ranks of the Democracy at those leaders who, foreseeing the final defeat a few hours in advance, have struck for the rear, launching their Parthian arrows in their flight, not at the common foe, but at their own commanders...

Two courses only were open to the Democratic Convention. It would accept reconstruction on the basis of universal suffrage, and nominate Chase, or it would proclaim its purpose to overturn it and nominate Seymour and Blair.

But the majority of the Democratic party meant then, and mean now, to overturn and reverse reconstruction if they can. Mr. Blair told them truly that against the Republican majorities of three-fourths in both Houses of Congress they could not lawfully overturn the Southern State Governments.

Whatever the Democratic leaders do must of course be done quickly; we do not mean to thrust our advice upon them, but if they reject it they will live to repent their blunder. It is not too late yet for them to elect their candidates, but their success will depend upon their nominating Grant and Colfax.

is true they have not, of late years, treated the advice of the Evening Post with the respect which we believe it to deserve. But in times of adversity men sometimes come to their senses, and it may occur to some of the Democratic leaders, without an ungracious reminder from ourselves, that they began to lose elections as soon as they ceased to regard the advice of the Evening Post...

Our present advice to the Democratic leaders, then, is that they nominate, in place of Seymour and Blair, the two best and most popular men now before the American people. Of course we mean Grant and Colfax.

We advise the Democratic leaders, then, to set to work and improve the Grant-Colfax platform. They would do well, we think, to add to it a clause or section insisting upon impartial suffrage everywhere, and laying stress on the cardinal point of the Democratic faith in every State.

Nor is this all. They would do well to insist upon the payment of the interest and principal of the national debt in gold and silver coin. The Republican platform promises this, but in words which are poor, unimpressive, and are yet so forcible as the simple and unmistakable words "gold and silver."

Negro Tactics at the South.

From the N. Y. Nation. The appeal of the colored members who have been expelled from the Georgia Legislature to Congress for redress, the legal aspect of which we shall discuss at another time, suggests some considerations touching the political and social nature of the colored people...

The Dreadful Blairs.

From the N. Y. Herald. The Blairs have much to answer for if half that is said of them be true. They assisted Van Buren in 1848 in organizing the disruption of the old Democratic party; they assisted in organizing the Republican party; they got Frank into Congress and Montgomery into Lincoln's Cabinet as Republicans; but the radicals got Frank out of Congress and Montgomery out of the Cabinet, and from that point we find them returning to the Democratic church.

Advice Gratis.

From the N. Y. Evening Post. The Democratic leaders are in difficulties—and no wonder. They have been very foolish. They made a platform as bad as it could be; and then they put on it two candidates who were sure to be defeated on any platform—even on such a half-and-half one as Mr. Seymour would have made with the assistance of a few of his friends.

bers of good people who need to have it said to them several times yet. A dog or a horse might go the polls and drop a piece of paper into a round hole; but to drop a piece of paper into the hole with a well-understood object agreed upon beforehand with others, and with a distinct perception of the possible results, is the act of a man; and until the main body of the negroes are able to do this the ballot will only be a very imperfect protection against such oppression as Congress can do nothing to prevent.

Now, the negroes are certainly in every State but three in a minority, and for all practical political purposes in a small minority. It is safe to say they can never hope to win a victory at the polls in any Southern State, after the next year or two, by the negro vote alone.

It must be remembered, too, that in this game of chance the whites will long, if not always, have the upper hand, even if the number of the two races were more nearly equal. The negroes must not forget that, in spite of the intelligence which large numbers of them are showing, and which we hope the great body of them will show before long, and in spite of the progress they are making in education, they are matched, in any strife they may carry on with their white neighbors, against the thriestest, warriest, most energetic race on earth, that which has carried the political art to the highest perfection, and which is most skillful in its use, whether for offense or defense.

Not only are they in a minority too, but they are a minority composed of a detested and despised race, that which has carried the political art to the highest perfection, and which is most skillful in its use, whether for offense or defense.

It is plain, therefore, that for the negro to make the ballot of much use to him, to make it instrumental in protecting himself against legislative obloquy and maladministration directed against his race, he must in some way divide the whites so as to throw the balance into his hands, and make it an object of some considerable body of the whites to court the negro vote.

Another of Mr. Tilden's points is a comparison of the live stock of the country in 1859 with the present number of the same animals. The consumption and destruction during the war, especially of horses and neat cattle, was enormous, and has not yet been made up.

But that period has now passed away. The black man has the ballot, but finds himself in a minority, and finds the forms of law still soiled with oppression, and turning against his side, if not through sympathy or humanity, then through interest, enough of the whites to give him, at great outlay at least, the opportunity of influencing the Government. The way to do this is to refrain as far as possible from stimulating white prejudices and arousing white passions, to avoid every step or measure that is likely to unite the whites against the blacks.

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have been conducted by the enemies of the blacks for the purpose of rendering the ballot worthless to them, and making the question of white versus black the only question of Southern politics for all coming time, or of having been devised by some political will-iss in an outbreak of animal spirits. It will be a great and noble thing to see the white children of the South sent to the same schools as the black, owing to the indifference of their parents to color distinctions. That will be a great triumph of civilization and Christianity.

The Rising of the Democracy.

From the N. Y. World. The events of the last few days have made manifest to the Democracy, and to its enemies as well, the determined, indomitable spirit with which it faces the contest soon to be waged, not in four States only, but from the center of the republic to its verge; the invincible courage with which it faces the very sword of a defeat; and the ardor with which it closes up its ranks, repairs its lines, makes solid its columns, and demands of its statesmen, its chosen leaders, that they point the way to victory.

So far is the spirit of our people from being cast down, so far are their hearts from being dismayed with the dread of a repetition in November of the adverse result of the October elections, that there rises up with an unanimous and unforced accord from every rank and every column of our gallant hosts the voice of an invincible courage, proclaiming their confidence that victory can and shall be theirs.

But an army without leadership is a helpless mob, no matter how gallant may be every soldier in its files. The Democratic hosts stand serene and indomitable, looking to their chosen and trusted leader for the new order of battle which shall marshal them to a triumphant day and a not inglorious future.

National Resources—The Waste of War.

From the N. Y. World. We printed, on Saturday morning, a curious and valuable investigation, by Mr. Samuel J. Tilden, of a problem which lies quite out of the beaten paths of political discussion, but has, nevertheless, a close bearing on some of the chief questions which occupy the attention of politicians.

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