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SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

"Sauve Qui Peut."

From the New York Tribune.

It is written that toward the evening of the battle of Waterloo, 'a'ter the French Guard had failed in its desperate effort to break the English front, there was a pause, a sudden shivering of the long French lines, a bustle, a hubbub, shouts swelling into a clamor, and finally deepening into the terrible and fatal cry, "Sauve qui peut." In a moment the mighty army of France became a wild, hustling, panic-stricken mob. All that the genius and magnetism of Napoleon and his generals could do was in vain. Entreaty, reproach, and command were unheeded. Brave men mocked their captains, all decency and honor were lost, and it only remained for the triumphant legions of the allies to put their horses into a gallop to complete the destruction the French.

But for the cry that rose with deep and shudderivg emphasis from the army of Napoleon, the shattered regiments might have been retreated into a position of safety, and prepared for another contest. But for the ery raised by the World and the New York and Ohio leaders of the Democracy, that party might have kept its legions in good order, and entered the November canvass with honor if not with victory. Yet what do we see? The Democratic party has become a Democratic mob. The question is no longer how can they attack the Republicans, but how can they save themselves. Read this from the World:-

1. "The result of the recent elections having vindicated his (Governor Seymour's) sagacity, he owes it to himself and the party to assume that position of authority which belongs to his abilities, and which the masses of the party crave that he should take." 2. "Having witnessed the results of inferior leadership, it is his duty to bring back the can-

vass to the moderate and proservizing ground on which it was his original wish to place it." 3 "After these defeats, the masses of the De-

 a After these defeats, the masses of the Democracy need words of encouragement from their trusted leader."
4. "Nothing is so persuasive or so steadying as truth, spoken with honest courage."
5. "The Democratic masses yearn for the truth from the lips of the statesman who, besides being their second candidate heat the plearest beard their accepted candidate, has the clearest head, the best gifts of utterance, the largest power to command attention, the greatest moral weight

of any man in the party." 6. "They do not desire him to prophesy smooth deceits, but to tell them, is all honest plainness, why they have failed, and now they may yet

'A party cannot subsist upon vapering and make-believe." 8. "Unless we can change the aspect of the

canvass we shall have a repetition in November of a result like that which has overtaken us in the preliminary contest." 9. "If anybody tells th

9. If anybody tells the people that things look well as they stand, or that nothing which can now be done would better them, he is in the first case disnonest, and in the second mistaken 10. "Governor Seymour can now aid us much,

but" 11. "General Blair can aid us far more, in a

different way, by a chivalric action superior to all eloquenc

All of which means "Sauve pui peut"-let every man shift for himself. Here comes the editor of the most pretentious, if not the most consistent journal of the Democratic party, begrimed with the smoke of the battle. He comes in a panic. "Seymour won't do." He shrieks, "I 'orave' that he may retire. I have fought under his 'interior leadership,' and I will not stop running until he is removed. 4 want 'words of encouragement,' or I will fight no more. He'd better stop lying, and tell the truth with 'honest courage,' and the truth is that every man, horse, gun, and baggage-wagon is in full retreat! I am so badly whipped I 'yearn for truth !' I'm tired 'of smooth deceits,' and want my captain to tell ns why we are whipped. Bragging is one thing-fighting another. We have got to change our aspect'-the enemy is upon us ! If anybody says we am't whipped, he lies ! Let Blair stop talking and go away." When a leader is in this condition of mind it means that he has no army to lead-that he is a fugitive and a vagabond-and that his followers are in full rout. "Eauve qui peut !" Look how they run ! The whole line is in retreat, with the exception of the valiant Pomeroy, who comes to the front with a couple of scavenger carts, and deploys for action. Mr. Tilden's condition of "serene confidence" has become one of hurried perplexity. Mr. Belmont dismisses his tailors and takes to his racing track. He will need no gorgeous uniform for the Palace of St. James. George Francis Train hears the noise over the sea, and instead of running with the World, crosses the lines and declares for Grant. McClellan, with vast experience in managing retreats, declines to command this wretched rabble, and takes refuge in a Philadelphia gunboat. And what has become of Pendleton? Like Brutus, perhaps he is transfixed upon his own sword. Ben. Hill's friends, finding that negro-walloping is at an end, now clamor for negro-voting. Sweeney and Tweed, in their fantastical Indian dresses, see that Seymour is routed, and try to raily the line for Hoffman and save the baggage-wagons. Too late! Too late! "sauve qui peut!" All is a panic and uproar-and the scampering hosts of routed Copperheads are whirling from the When a man is in danger of sudden death or under the deep stress of imminent peril, it is his instinct to call upon some saint to save him; or to invoke the direct and immediate help of Almighty God; or to vow that he will build a church or burn candles if he is rascued; or to swear at everybody but himself for his calamity. Most frequently and particularly, if the danger is appalling, he instantly makes confession of his sins, and, abandoniug all hope of life, seeks mercy by an abject and crawling penitence. This is the pidifal position of our valiant editor. He sneers at the "leadership," and yet he has been a trusted leader. He demands the withdrawal of Seymour and Blair, and yet he has never ceased to insist that their election was our only salvation. He insists upon truth-telling, and fails to remember that no one has been more conspicuously untruthful. He has spoken a hundred prophecies-now they are all "smooth deceits." No one has vapored more recklessly-now he wants "no more vaporing." He has told us that victory was inevitable-new whoever says the canvass "looks well" is "dishonest." "Sauve qui peut," "Sauve qui peut," every man for himself, and no man more essentially and emphatically than this blustering captain ! -And now, boys! Drive them. "If Lee is pushed," said Sheridan, as he flercely tracked the Rebel army to Appomattox, "I think he will surrender." "Push things!" replied the illustrious leader. This is the word we send along the Republican lines today.

shricking. It will not stop. Neither the protests of the party press, nor the disavowals of the party committee, seem to have the slightest effect in silencing its clamor. It shouts for

elp. Its desperate condition may be inferred from the fact that it looks to Seymour for advice and to Blair for action. It praises Seymour and exalts the wisdom of the Democratic Convention for putting him in nomination. Whatever has been done that is wrong, has not been done by Seymour. He is wise and pa-triotic and "sound." "After these defeats," says the World, "the masses of the Democracy need words of encouragement from their trusted leader." That's true-but they won't get them. Seymonr never encourages anybody; he never feels encouraged himself. He does not get "discouraged" as often as Blair. perhaps, but his discouragement is of astrange type. It strikes deeper and lasts longer. The country and the army looked to Sey-

mour, then Governor of New York, for 'words of encouragement' during the war. Did they get them? Not much. The Governor made a good many speeches, and wrote a good many letters; but there was not much 'encouragement'' in any of them. They were more doleful than any ditties ever said or sung. The Lamentations of the lamentable prophet Jeremiah were cheerful and inspiritsongs, compared with the dismal diatribes ing and woful prophecies of this Democratic Solon. He bewailed the successes of our soldiers more than their defeats. "Successful coercion" was to him more disastrous than "successful rebellion." The most "encouraging" thing he said during the war was that it had proved a "failure." The most cheerful had proved a "failure." The most cheerful observation he is recorded to have made was in his speech to the rioters, that his Adjutant had gone to Washington to stop the draft !

We hope the World will persevere in its effort to get something "encouraging" out of Horatio. It cannot fail to do good-when it comes. But we would not advise our distressed neighbor to wait too long for it, or to count too confidently on getting it at all. Don't let Blair off while waiting for Seymour. Insist on his giving his party the benefit of his "chivalric action," without waiting for Seymour's "sober counsels of a statesman, who knows no art but sincere robust integrity." So far as the Democracy is concerned, that is one of the "Lost Arts, and we don't think that the World is likely to recover it through Governor Seymour's agency.

However, there is nothing like perseverance in a good cause. Let the World, therefore, persevere. If pressed vigorously Blair may not surrender, but Seymour will be very likely te say something. We advise the World to "push things !"

Seymour and Blair.

From the N. Y. World.

The zeal with which the World labora to make Governor Seymour the central and, as it were, the sole figure in the Presidential canvass, is no transient flash of excited feeling. It is a steady purpose resting upon a settled judgment of the exigencies of the campaign. We have already surmounted the most difficult obstacle in such an undertaking as we mean to accomplish. We have thoroughly aroused public attention. We are quite secure that our arguments will not fall upon listless minds. For the moment, we command the attention of the whole country as no public journal ever commanded it before. It is not, as yet, indeed, an entirely favorable attention: but when our case is fully stated and our reasons weighed, we are confident that we shall have changed the current of public thought.

It is our intention that this Presidential campaign shall hereatter revolve around Governor Seymour as its chief pivot, and not around General Blair, as the Republicans have too successfully tried to make it. Governor Seymour's conception of from the beginning, broad and liberal. He has the wise moderation as well as the farreaching sagacity of a statesman. General Blair, with a character full of generous ardor, is naturally impetuous and defiant, and in the unfortunate Brodhead letter he used some inconsiderate expressions, of which the Republicans have made a great handle. Although General Blair was only the candidate for Vice-President, an office without power, the Republicans have made him the most prominent figure in the whole canvass, and have conveyed the impression that his Broadbead letter was the real platform of the Democratic party. This has done mischief precisely where we could least afford it, that s, among that class of wavering Republicans whom it should have been our chief labor to bring into the Democratic party. Had it not been for this dishonest manœuvre of the Republicans we should easily have carried all the States which have held elections in October. Considering how open the Brodhead letter is to misconstruction, we think that General Blair ought to withdraw, and thus put a sudden end to the mischievous prominence that has been given him in the canvass. His withdrawal would accomplish in an instant what will otherwise cost several days of assiduous labor at a stage of the campaign

capable of putting things in such a light that | had it all fixed, with the nomination out and candid opponents in the Soute will not refuse | drind, and a sincious speech for Chasa piceles their co-operation. The inoderation, the self-rise, the caim and course-ous confidence of a "latesman_speak in every line of the letter."

It was our wish then, as it is our determination now, that the views of Governor Seymour and not those attributed by the Repub licans to General Blair, should be regarded as the basis of the campaign of the Democratic side. Tens of thousands of credulous citizens, who incline towards the Democratic party. have been retained in the R-publican ranks by the raw-head-and-bloody-bones of another civil war. The absurdity of this bugbear led us to underestimate its capacity for mischief. it is astonishing that anybody could have be lieved that the Democratic party meant to disperce the negro legislatures by the Federal army; but it is not at all surprising that those who did so believe should vote against us. As it was some imprudent expressions of General Blair that gave color to this foolish fear, his withdrawal is the shortest way to correct the misapprehension.

General Blair, with a chivalry which does him credit, has already expressed his willingness to withdraw, if the good of the party requires it. We think reflection will convince him that the ticket would be stronger if some other name were substituted for his. The practical effect of the ticket, as now made up, does not correspond to its theory. The theory was, that the candidate for Vice-President should be a general and a recent Republican, in order to commend the ticket to the favorable consideration of dissatisfied Republicans. But, in point of fact, General Blair is a much harder man for such citizens to vote for than Governor Seymour himself. Instead of softening hostility to the ticket, General Blair intensifies it. If so new a recruit to the Democracy was not put on the ticket to conciliate Republicans, we can imagine no good reason why he should be there at all. Has he conciliated Republicans? Is there any waverer in that party who could more easily vote for General Blair than for a life-long Democrat? General Blair is perfectly competent to answer this question. The party, after having put him on the ticket, feel it to be an ungracious thing to push him off; but if he thinks the cause would be benefited by his withdrawal, and that some other name would better suit the true theory of the ticket, he can gracefully perform an act which would entitle him to Democratic gratitude, and raise his reputation for chivalry and publie spirit.

The Demoralized Democracy. From the N. Y. Heraid.

The confusion of Babel-the confusion of tongues-has fallen upon the demoralized Democracy. They too have had their decisive defeats around Petersburg, and are on the run for Appomattox Court House. Had they followed the advice of the Herald, as Seymour, under the counsels of John Van Buren, followed it in 1862, the whole face of things would have been changed. After his splendid campaign of Vicksburg, we foresaw what the promotion of General Grant would not stop short of the White House. After that unparalleled campalgn which began in the Wilderness, and ended in Lee's surrender, it was manifest that Grant, as the Republican or Democratic candidate, would be our next President. For well on to two years, however, after Lee's surrender the opinion prevailed that General Grant was a war Democrat, and that accordingly the chances of securing his great name for 1868 were decidedly in favor of the Democracy, if they would only abandon that fatal idea that the war was a failure.

The Herald meantime had presented General Grant and urged his commanding popularity upon the Republicans; but the radical leaders, managers, and organs laughed at our presumption. The Republican party, relying upon its own strength, they said, would have no doubtful standard-bearer for the succession, who might turn out to be another John Tyler or Andy Johnson, but they would have a man dried, and a giorious speech for Chase, nicely written out, nicely folded up, in his pocket and ready for delivery !

218 & 220

S. FRONT ST.

We know what was done, and we have had an inkling of the consequences. The Democratic politicians and jugglers, including Sey mour, scorning, in their silly self-conceits, our advice and our warnings, have come to grief. They begin to understand that a calm looker-on of some experience at a battle, from a point above and beyond the smoke and confusion of the field, can tell better the shaping and weak points of the fight on both sides than any of those actively engaged. Now, after their late reverses under Seymour, some of these Democratic politicians, with their party newspaper Bohemians, gypsies, and camp followers, pro-pose to adopt our counsels of last June and July. We have also some of the Tammany clique, who are more interested in Hoffman than Seymour. Hoffman himself would, no doubt, be glad to be relieved of Seymour. We suspect that Seymour stood in his way in the Tammany Convention; for Hoffman had aspired to be something better than Governor, and better than a tail to the kite of Seymour. But the tables are turned, and Seymour as a candidate now appears as a tail to the kite of Hoffman. The Bohemians of the Manhattan ring have reduced Seymour to this position, and Hoffman says nothing. Disgusted with all these intrigues and jugglings and paltry tricks and double dealings of the managing politicians, cliques and rings, and hungry Bohemians of the New York Democracy, we may look for a crushing verdict against them from the people of this Commonwealth in November.



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Help Me, Cassius, or I Sink. From the N. Y. Times.

The World calls for help-lustily and yet a good deal "like a sick girl." It is not satisfied with the despairing shrick it uttered, or with the chorus of shricks which it evoked, when the news of the October disasters first astonished the Democratic party. But it keeps

when time is infinitely precious. The World deems this a fit occasion to recall the following pertinent and pregnant passage of Governor Seymour's letter of acceptance:-

"The Republican party, as well as we are in terested in putting some eneck upon this vio-lence. It must be clear to every thinking mind that a division o, power tends to check the violence of party action, and to assure the peace and good order of society. The election of a flemocratic Executive and a majority of members to the House of Representatives would not give to that organization power to make sudden or violent changes, out it would serve to check those extreme measures which have been deplored by the best men of both politi-cal organizations. The result would most cer-tainly lead to that peaceful restoration of the Union and that re-establish-ment of fraiernal relationship which the country desires. I am su ethat the best men of "The Republican party, as well as we are in country desires. I am su e that the best men of the Republican party deplore as deeply as I do the spirit of violence shown by those recently admitted in Congress from the South. The condition of civil war which they contemplate must be abhorrent to every right-thinking man.'

It will be recollected that Governor Saymonr's letter of acceptance was not written until a month after the Democratic National Convention. The Republicans had already made a mischievous use of the Brodhead letter, and in the passage we have quoted Governor Seymour intended to counteract that impression. His delicacy to his associate on the ticket prevented any direct allusion to the perversions of General Blair's letter; but nobody can doubt that he felt, and aimed to counteract, their injurious tendency. So important did the World deem this effort at the time that it printed this part of Governor Seymour's letter of acceptance in the most prominent place on its editorial page, marked the most suggestive expressions with a different type, and enforced their significance by editorial comments. Among other earnest things, we said :--

"Those Republican journals which have been "Those Republican journals which have been demanding proofs of Governor Seymour's statesmauship may find them in this letter. It contains not a trace of that spasmodic vio-lence of tone which marks busy, consequential insignificance. He has a steady grasp of the situation, and s caim foresight both of obstacles and of the means of surmaunting them. He speaks like a man conscious of resources, who sees no necessity for violence, because he feets

whose principles were thoroughly Republican, and so proclaimed to the four winds of heaven. Thus, in the State elections of 1867, the claims and the availability of General Grant for the succession were studiously ignored by the radical managers, and Chase, as the great and reliable radical statesman, was brought into the foreground. Then we began to show, and it began to be widely believed, that Chase would in all probability be the Republican candidate, and that to defeat him the War Democracy would be able to compel the Democratic Convention to adopt General Grant. So it was that even the World at last began to discover in General Grant the qualities of a marvellous proper man for the Democracy on a new departure. They only had to admit the settlement of certain questions and nominate General Grant to march on to a great victory and a glorious future. The same organ has since unblushingly denounced this same General as nothing better than a drunken idiot, a butcher, and an impostor. But the elections of 1867 changed the pro-

gramme on both sides. The swamping of Chase and Old Ben Wade in Ohio, and of the Fenton-Greeley radical managers in NewYork, and their Chase programme, was speedily fol-lowed by popular gatherings of the rank and file of the Grant Republicans, and the radical managers began at once to lose ground from he pressure of these spontaneous popular uprisings. These movements soon, indeed, made such headway against the denunciations of Wendell Phillips levelled at Grant as a drunkard, an ignoramus, a bad bargain, a man of Democratic proclivities, with a weakness for Johnson; against the remonstrances of Greeley in behalf of the principles and dignity of the Republican party; against the opinions of Old Ben Wade that General Grant would only talk horse, and could talk nothing but horse; against the complaint of Sumner that Grant was a whitewasher of the traitor Johnson-such headway against all this that a special radical organ was set up in Philadelphia to pooh-pooh Grant and glorify Chase. But the quarrel and the famous correspondence between Grant and Johnson of Febrnary, 1868, on the Stanton imbroglio, brought General Grant out into such bold relief on the reconstruction measures of Congress that, with the publication of those letters, the radicals were vanquished, the Democracy were disgusted, Chase was totally eclipsed, and Grant became the Republican candidate as by general consent and by acclamation.

Then another wonder came to light. Here was Grant, who had been the hope of the con-servatives, changed into the idol of the radicals; and next we had Chase, the fallen idol of the radicals, changed into the hope of the conservatives. From his admirable course on the impeachment trial the Chief Justice became an imp of darkness to the radicals and an angel of light to the Democracy. Then it began to be seen that Chase, as the fearless defender of the Constitution, was the candl date upon whom all the conservative elements of the country, with the Democracy in the van, could achieve a solid and lasting triumph over the radicals, even under the banner of Grant. The Herald presented this idea in every shape and form in a series of articles from day to day, down to the Tammany Con-vention, in behalf of Chase as the sure and only salvation of the Democracy. We thought, too, down to the flasco of Seymour's nomination and acceptance, that Chase would be the man; for were we not assured that Seymour

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