

SPiRiT OF THE PRESS.

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

Governor Seymour Takes the Stump!

From the N. Y. Times. The Democratic party is recovering a little from its panic and attempting to make another effort for the "Lost Cause." Governor Seymour is himself to take the stump. Finding how useless are all the speeches made by others in his behalf, he proposes to see what he can say and do for himself. The short time remaining between this and November 3 is to be occupied by Governor Seymour in advocating his own election.

The effort is well meant, but it will amount to nothing. No man ever yet increased his own chance of an election to the Presidency by showing his personal anxiety for it. The people never have regarded that office as one to be scrambled for or to be given to the man who wanted it most. On the contrary, it has generally fallen to the men who seemed to want it least. Calhoun, Clay, and Webster were universally recognized as men of transcendent ability and as profound statesmen. They were all ambitious, and all strove earnestly and strenuously for the Presidency. There they stood, and they were there because of their own merit, not because of their own anxiety to get it. We do not recollect that any one of them resorted to the desperate expedient of making public speeches in advocacy of his own election—although they were all quite as powerful and persuasive orators as Mr. Seymour. But the people regard disinterestedness, entire and complete unselfishness, as essential to the proper performance of the duties of the Presidency, and when they find any man intensely bent on acquiring the office, they regard that fact as a very strong reason why he should not have it; and they have never given it to such a man.

The people, moreover, prefer men of action, to men of words, for that high place. The office is one for action, not for speech. The proper place for eloquent men—for men whose powers are argumentative, or persuasive, whose strength lies in oratory—is Congress. There they can do full scope for their peculiar gifts. But the Presidency is an executive office. The President's duty is to execute the laws—not to persuade men, nor to expound and advocate principles or measures. It is to act, not to talk. And the people have always preferred men of action—men whose lives had been distinguished by what they had done, rather than men whose greatness was shown only in what they had said. Jackson was elected, Taylor was elected, and Grant will be elected, not for their oratory, nor their writings, but for their acts of duty, of patriotism, of devotion to the public good. Governor Seymour is nothing but a talker. He has done nothing to commend him to the admiration or the confidence of the people.

It is too late, moreover, for Governor Seymour to produce any very marked effect on popular sentiment by his oratory, no matter how brilliant or splendid it may be. He has discussed all the issues that are involved in the canvass already. His opinions are perfectly well known. He can say nothing new. Everybody knows what he thinks of the war, of the debt, of the Constitution, and of the Republican party. Everybody understands that he deemed the war utterly unconstitutional, that he regarded "unsuccessful coercion" as revolutionary, that he looks upon the destruction of slavery as violent and unjust, that he considers the debt oppressive and ruinous, the Constitution as a splendid ruin, and the Republican party as the incarnation of all evil. He can say nothing new on any of these subjects, nor can he say anything about them any better or more impressively than he has said it a hundred times already. He can persuade nobody to vote for him who does not belong to the Democratic party, and the chances are that he will fail to persuade a great many thousands of those who do.

The fact is, the people have a profound and deeply-rooted distrust of Governor Seymour and of the party which seeks to make him President. They see and know that neither he nor his party gave the Government the least support when it was struggling for its own existence—that his party has, since the war was over, taken the leaders of the Rebellion into full fellowship and given them the lead of its councils—that it has plucked itself immovably against every like progress in the development of republicanism, and has become simply the party of reaction—that its platform is revolutionary, its policy is to overturn by force the laws of the land and the State Governments which have been formed under them, that violence, bloodshed, and murder are the weapons by which its success is sought in the Southern States, and that the doctrines it lays down, the spirit and temper in which they are sustained, and the character of the men who control its action, all point to disturbance and commotion as certain to result from its elevation to power.

Bring Up the Reserves!

From the N. Y. World. In every well-ordered battle, a portion of the forces are kept out of the earlier parts of the engagement to be used only in the supreme crisis. When the famous Old Guard of Napoleon came thundering to the front, it was a signal that the decisive hour was at hand; that victory was about to perch on the banners of a conquering host. If the battle could be won without bringing forward the Old Guard, it was considered all the better; that so-called veterans, who knew how to die but not to surrender, being always willing that other troops should signalize their valor, and win the proud distinction of having their bravest soldiers enrolled in the Old Guard, which, whether it fought or merely watched, was sure to reap a new harvest of glory from every successful exploit by any part of the army.

The fate of a battle is never decided until the reserves are brought up and have done their utmost. If one army has reserves, and the other has none; if one has put all its force into the conflict at the first onset, and the other has kept back its most effective corps for a decisive coup at the supreme moment, that reserve will turn the scale. Immediately after the October elections, the World felt that the time had come for bringing up the Democratic reserve; it will presently be in the thick of the conflict, and it is not difficult to calculate the result. The Republicans have no reserves. In the October elections they did their "level best." There is no new element which they can possibly bring into the canvass. General Grant can do nothing to help them in the final struggle. Unlike Governor Seymour, he has not lain back as a mighty reservoir of unexercised strength. He is as dumb as an oyster;

dumb for the same reason that an oyster is—because he cannot speak. The contrast between the torpid intellect of the workman and the broad sagacity of the statesman will now shine out with full lustre. The best use to which the Republicans can put their candidate is to keep his mouth shut and prevent his exposing his narrow, barren intellect. But the most effective use the Democratic party can make of its candidate is to bring him out, as Disraeli, and Gladstone, and Bright come out and rouse the people by their vigorous and manly speech. In a political crisis, it is the right of the people to know what their most masculine thinkers and broadest statesmen can say to enlighten the public judgment. The people have an especial interest in gaging those who are proposed for the highest official trusts and looked to as the guiding minds of their respective parties. Guiding minds! Who ever thought of General Grant as one of the great political thinkers of his time—or as a respectable political thinker—or even as a man of political ideas? He is a political thinker of any sort or size? He thinks! He enlighten the public judgment! He shapes the political views of his countrymen! He inspire his contemporaries with far-reaching views of public policy! We never heard that a tortoise could poise himself in the sky, like an eagle, and take the bearings of a mountain range. It is a function for his powers of locomotion have not fitted him. Why, then, do we hear in this great conjuncture is a statesman. It is a misnomer to apply that term to General Grant. Instead of ranking, like Governor Seymour, with the Gladstones and the Disraelis, he ranks nowhere. He is impotent to do any one thing expected of men of that class. If he should ever be President, his very messages, if they rise above inane platitudes and dull recital of statistics, will have to be written for him by others. The idea of his recommending to Congress anything more important than should occur to the members, is so absurd as to be grotesque. Of course, he has no capacity to infuse a new spirit into this political canvass, or to animate and illuminate it with great, inspiring thoughts.

But in Governor Seymour the Democratic party has an important reserve of statesmanlike qualities which can be made to tell at once on the canvass. His luminous mind and vigorous eloquence will enable him to edge in the public mind views that otherwise would be kept out. So active and powerful a mind is never at the end of its resources; and as success is a mere question of controlling public opinion, and public opinion is controlled by ideas, he has every advantage, both in the possession of the proper weapons and consummate skill to use them. He brings rifled artillery and needle-guns, while all his opponents fight with arms of shorter range and less calibre, and poor General Grant has no weapon at all.

The effect of Governor Seymour's stamping the canvass with the impress of his own liberal and capacious intellect, will be to efface the raw-head-and-bloody-bones nonsense and the obsolete trivialisms logged into the canvass from a state of things now completely past. All that the country ought to care for is the solution of present questions by methods which fall within the domain of the statesman, and exclude the methods of the soldier. When pertinent matters are ably presented by a statesman possessing unrivalled power to command attention, the foolish irrelevances which have filled so much space in the canvass will shrink out of view. The important practical question is, how many new votes will thereby be brought to the Democratic side? Is it extravagant to expect four hundred in Indiana? If not, we shall carry Indiana. It is beyond bounds to expect four thousand in Pennsylvania? If not, Pennsylvania is also ours; and so of many other States. But besides great bringing up of reserves under the mot d'ordre of Governor Seymour, we shall have in Pennsylvania another great advantage which we did not possess in the October election. By redeeming Philadelphia, as we have done, and getting possession of its city government, we nullify a force that was used against us, and turn it into a corresponding advantage. It is like capturing the chief battery of the enemy and reversing its guns. By the knavery of the Republican city government and police force, we were cheated out of votes enough in Philadelphia to have saved us the State. We shall now have in that city a full Democratic vote and an honest count. We possess another advantage in the very elation of the Republicans over their success in the State elections. Their over-sanguine confidence will slacken their exertions. The cry which they have raised of "a Democratic rout" will simply throw their own troops into disorder. They have committed the fatal mistake of treating a manoeuvre for a better position as if it were a retreat, and they are destined to pay a fatal penalty. The Republicans will find, after election, how much wiser it would have been to keep by the saddle, "not to halloo till you are out of the woods."

The Movement to Set Aside Seymour and Blair—The Gamblers Behind the Scenes. From the N. Y. Herald. The puzzle of perpetual motion, the problem of squaring the circle or what became of the ten lost tribes of Israel, are questions not more difficult of solution than the late factious movement in the Democratic camp against Seymour and Blair upon any presumption of party expediency. The proposition was put forth simultaneously from a Copperhead journal in New York and a Copperhead journal in Washington, and was so promptly responded to by several Copperhead journals in New Orleans, Richmond, and elsewhere in the South and West, as to suggest a common understanding among them all. The reasons advanced for the motion to cast Seymour and Blair overboard and to try a new ticket headed by Chase would have been somewhat plausible, with a margin of two or three months of time to work upon; but coming forth within three short weeks of the Presidential election, the proposition naturally excited among the honest Democratic masses suspicions of insincerity against the guilty parties or of treachery, bribery, and corruption. The reasons assigned for this absurd and suicidal movement were that General Blair's Brodhead letter had "played the very devil" with the Democratic party in the late Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana elections; that but for Blair and that fatal letter the Democracy would have carried at least Pennsylvania and broke the party down in October, and would certainly, unless removed, break it up in November. It had, therefore, become an imperative necessity to cut off Blair and substitute a man perfectly clear of his damaging heresies. But to "make assurance doubly sure" in this change of front, it was further proposed to substitute Chase for Seymour in order to gain over the conservative balance of power from the Republican camp. In short, some great event was needed to challenge, at once, the public attention and divert the current of public condemnation from Blair and his obnoxious letter to the shortcomings of the radicals, and nothing would suffice to do this but the change of the Democratic ticket from Seymour and Blair to Chase and Hancock, or Chase and Hendricks, or Chase and Johnson,

or Johnson and Chase, or something of that sort. Such was the demand made upon the National Democratic Committee, and such the reasons submitted for it by the Copperhead organs concerned. A change of commanders forthwith and a change of base were the only things that could save the party from a crushing defeat in November. Mr. Belmont was right when he said in reply that a change of the ticket under the circumstances was impracticable—yes, impossible—and if made "would be equivalent to disbanding the forces." The prize movers, however, involved in the scheme, may as easily assume, care nothing for this. They doubtless expected that the promulgation of the proposition from several Democratic papers at once, and from the cliques behind them, would create such consternation in the general camp as to compel Mr. Belmont and his committee to change the ticket at all hazards. But why should these disturbing cliques be so desperate, clamorous, and persistent in this project if they cared nothing for the consequences which they would incur? We think we can answer this question. These men were not bought to do this thing by the "bloated bondholders," nor by Republican money. The Republicans all along felt too sure of their game to waste their greenbacks in any such useless investments. But we have no doubt that the sporting circles, the ancient and powerful fraternity of gamblers of New York, Washington, Cincinnati, Richmond, and New Orleans, did this thing. How and why? We remember a story of the Baltimore Democratic Convention of 1852. While the Convention was blindly hammering away upon Cass, Buchanan, Douglas, Marcy, Houston, Lane, Dickinson, and others, an outsider remarked to a friend, "It's no use, old fogies. All the heavy gamblers of the United States are in town, and they are all for Douglas first, and second for any young man against any old dog." And this is the power from which this anti-Seymour and Blair movement has emanated—the Democratic fraternity of gamblers. They have their headquarters and their newspaper laqueys in Washington, New York, and in other places. They are in the whisky rings, the tobacco rings, and all the other rings. They had made heavy bets upon Seymour and Blair, and the general result, and on New York, Pennsylvania, and Indiana in the grand November election. Their October losses they might stand, but their bets for November of the same character would swamp them, and there was no help for them but in the withdrawal of Seymour and Blair. Hence the movement to get this ticket set aside, which would set aside all bets made upon it or upon either of these candidates.

This, we dare say, is the secret of this anti-Seymour and Blair movement, and here we have a clue to a puzzle which has long puzzled some. This explanation, too, is coherent and consistent throughout. It presents an object in large amounts of cash, to be saved simply with the withdrawal of Seymour and Blair—an object which has nothing to do with the consequences to the party. The Democratic sporting gentlemen go into a Presidential contest as they go into the business of a faro bank or a keno table. They go in to win. Thus the Hon. John Morrissy, a good Democrat, won considerable money, they say, by betting on the Republicans in the late Pennsylvania election. And what to these men is Seymour or Blair, or any other candidate, if they see that they will lose money on him if kept in the field, and save thousands of money if he is set aside, in saving their bets? As for the newspaper gipsies and Bohemians concerned, they, too, like our model Alderman, are always "on the make." It is this subordination to the fraternity of gamblers a small thing in the degradation of the party press?

Governor Seymour on the Stump. From the N. Y. Tribune. The World, fancying that there has been too much Blair to the proportion of Seymour in the national canvass thus far, is ravished with the thought that its candidate for President is about to take the stump in behalf of his own election. "Governor Seymour's coming again in the canvass," it says, "implies a jacking force which was needed to turn the tide of victory in favor of the Democratic hosts." "This is the one thing needed to insure a Democratic triumph." This assumes that Seymour's appearance in the canvass is a novelty. But General Harrison spoke frequently in the canvass of 1840, which resulted in his election to the Presidency, and Senator Douglas canvassed nearly every State in the contest of 1860, when he obtained the entire vote of one-third of the State, and nearly half the vote of another. There is no objection to any one's speaking who a crowd can be collected to hear; and if Governor Seymour would improve his novel opportunity to retract the gross misstatements of his Connecticut speech last spring, we should deem his reappearance on the stump not only useful but creditable.

Governor Seymour and the stump are old acquaintances. In 1864 he was Governor of our State, and had for two years wielded the great power and patronage of that position. He had throughout that period commissioned all the officers in our State's vast contribution to the national volunteer forces, making his appointments and promotions grossly partisan in subserviency to his own ambition. He had presided over the late Democratic National Convention, and aided in giving it a platform after his own heart. He had organized a "State Guard," of which regiments were called out at sundry points to enhance the attractions of his meetings. With all these advantages, the Governor took the stump, and from county to county reiterated, applauding loudly, his demonstration of these propositions:— I. No progress has yet been made towards conquering the Rebellion. II. We have already incurred so vast a debt that all the property of the country is virtually confiscated thereby. III. Yet a little while, and no farm or building will have any value, the taxes necessarily levied thereon requiring or balancing its entire rent. IV. The credit of the Southern Confederacy in Europe is decidedly better than that of the Union, and money can be borrowed thereon at more favorable rates than on that of our Government. V. If Mr. Lincoln should be chosen President, the war will continue through the next four years, and will absorb all that remains of our property, whelming the whole country in irretrievable debt. These propositions were illustrated and enforced at various meetings, in a strain of assertion and argument that would have elicited ringing cheers throughout from either of the Rebel armies then fighting to destroy the Union. They carried comfort and cheer to the soul of every Rebel and Rebel sympathizer who heard them, but they didn't defeat Mr. Lincoln, nor did they elect Governor Seymour.

The World asserts that "not even Mr. Hoffman can command a single Democratic vote which would not be given with greater alacrity to the idol of the New York Democracy." * * * There is no candidate who adds to the strength of Seymour; but Governor Seymour always adds to the strength of the most

popular candidate voted for at the same election." We meet this gossamer with an array of recorded facts. Figures are its proper antidote. Horatio Seymour first ran for Governor of this State in 1850, when he was beaten, though all his associates on the Democratic ticket were elected. Here are the aggregates: Wagon Candidates. Democratic. Governor.....W. Hunt, 214,611 Seymour, 214,532 Lieut. Gov.....Cornell, 210,625 Church, 210,609 Canal Commr.....Blakely, 210,394 Mathew, 210,191 Prison Insp.....Baker, 209,142 Angell, 210,135 Clerk Appeals, Smith, 211,229 Benton, 211,955 In 1852 he ran again, and was elected; but he ran behind Lieutenant, Church, and his Canal Commissioner, Foster. In 1854 he ran again, and was beaten; but for once led his ticket—his party being divided into "Hards" and "Softs." In 1852, he ran again, and was elected, owing to the absence of fifty thousand voters in the field, fighting for their country; but his Lieutenant (D. R. Floyd Jones), and Canal Commissioner (Skinner) both ran ahead of him. In 1864 he made his last run for Governor, stumped the State as aforesaid, and was beaten by Governor Fenton. Seymour running behind his ticket as usual. Here are the aggregates:— President.....Lincoln, 388,775 McClellan, 301,496 Governor.....Fenton, 322,527 Seymour, 311,414 Lieut. Gov.....Alvord, 329,663 Church, 311,412 Canal Commr.....Aberger, 309,267 Lo, 311,412 Prison Insp.....Forsyth, 310,435 Angell, 311,415 Clerk Appeals, 311,415 In 1868 he ran again, and was the worst beaten of any man on the Democratic ticket, from President down. And that was his last appearance as a candidate till now. But trot him out, gentlemen, opposite, and put him through his paces! We have the record of his time, and know that, like the Irishman's racer, Botherum, he "drives all before him." He may just as well talk as not, for he can't kill himself any deadlier than he already is.

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GOVERNMENT SALES. SALE OF CONDEMNED ORDNANCE AND ORDNANCE STORES. OFFICE OF U. S. ORDNANCE AGENT, No. 100 WATER STREET, PHILADELPHIA. NEW YORK CITY, Sept. 24, 1868. (P. O. Box 1811.) Sealed Proposals, in duplicate, will be received at this office until 10 o'clock A. M. on October 24, 1868, for the purchasing of condemned cannon shot, scrap, wrought and cast iron, brass and other ordnance stores, located at the following points on the Atlantic coast, to wit: Fort Hamilton and Red Bank, Fort Mifflin, Fort Mifflin, and Fort Mifflin, and Castle Williams, in New York Harbor; Fort Adams and Fort Mifflin, in Newport Harbor, R. I.; Fort Constitution, Fort Mifflin, and Fort Mifflin, in Portsmouth Harbor, N. H.; Fort Knox, Fort Mifflin, and Fort Mifflin, in Portland Harbor, Me.; Fort Mifflin and Fort Mifflin, in Pensacola Harbor, Fla.; and Fort Mifflin and Fort Mifflin, in Morgan Harbor, Ala. This sale comprehends the disposition of 19 cannon in New York Harbor, estimated at 16,000 pounds; 22 cannon in Portsmouth Harbor, estimated at 16,000 pounds; 42 cannon in Portland Harbor, estimated at 16,000 pounds; 19 cannon in New London Harbor, estimated at 16,000 pounds; 19 cannon in Pensacola Harbor, estimated at 16,000 pounds; 19 cannon in Morgan Harbor, estimated at 16,000 pounds. Also smaller lots at Fort Niagara, Youngstown, and Fort Mifflin, in New York; and at Fort Mifflin, in Alabama. Also smaller lots of shot and shell, amounting in the whole to 1,196,485 pounds, are in quantity as each of the above-mentioned forts; also, scrap wrought iron, amounting in the whole to 460,000 pounds. Full and complete catalogues of the property offered can be had on application to this office, ten cents per copy, on the day of sale, and the remainder when the property is delivered. Thirty days will be allowed for the removal of heavy ordnance and other stores will be returned to the Government within ten days from date of sale. The Ordnance Department reserves the right to reject all bids not deemed satisfactory. Prior to the acceptance of any bid, it will have to be approved by the War Department. Bidders will specify the fort or forts where they will accept stores, and the number and kinds they propose to purchase. Deliveries will only be made at the forts. Proposals will be accepted at the Office of Ordnance, U. S. A., in New York City, or at the Office of Ordnance, U. S. A., in Philadelphia. Brevet-Colonel, U. S. A. 924 4w Major of Ordnance.

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PURE INSURANCE EXCLUSIVELY—THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE INSURANCE CO. OF PHILADELPHIA. INCORPORATED 1822—CHARTER PERPETUAL. No. 214 WALNUT STREET, opposite Independence Square. This Company insures from loss or damage by fire on liberal terms on buildings, merchandise, furniture, etc. for limited periods, and permanently on buildings, etc. by contract of fire. The Company has been in active operation for more than SIXTY YEARS, during which all losses have been promptly adjusted and paid. DIRECTORS: Daniel Smith, Jr., Alexander Benson, Isaac Haddock, Thomas Bobbin, DANIEL SMITH, Jr., President. JOHN DEWEY, Vice-President. THOMAS SMITH, Secretary. J. GILLHAM FOLK, Assistant Secretary. W. M. C. CROWELL, Secretary. 230

FURNISHING GOODS, SHIRTS, & G. H. S. K. G. Harris' Seamless Kid Gloves. EVERY PAIR WARRANTED. EXCLUSIVE AGENTS FOR GENTS' GLOVES. J. W. SCOTT & CO., 572P No. 314 CHESTNUT STREET. PATENT SHOULDER-BEAM SHIRT MANUFACTORY, AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE. PERFECT FITTING SHIRTS AND DRAWERS made to order by J. W. Scott & Co., No. 314 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. All other articles of GENTLEMEN'S DRESS GOODS in full variety. WINGESTER & CO., No. 706 CHESTNUT STREET. 112

PROPOSALS. FRANKFORD ARSENAL, PHILADELPHIA, PA. O-ctober 19, 1868. Sealed Proposals, in duplicate, will be received by the undersigned until 12 M. October 25, 1868, at this office, for furnishing the troops stationed at Frankford Arsenal with Fresh Beef, of a good marketable quality, in equal proportions of fore and hind quarters, excluding heads, shanks, and kidney tallow; the best to be delivered at the Arsenal, and such quantities and on such days as may be required by the proper authorities, and so continue in force six months, or such longer term as the Commissary-General shall direct, and subject to his approval, commencing on the 1st day of November, 1868. Upon acceptance of the offer, security and bond in the sum of six hundred Dollars will be required for the faithful performance of the contract. Bids must be endorsed "Proposals for Fresh Beef." JOHN R. GREER, Second Lieutenant Ord., A. C. S. 10 20 21

GAS FIXTURES. G. AS F I X T U R E S—MERRILL & TEAGARDEN, No. 715 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA. Manufacturers of Gas Fixtures, Stoves, etc., etc. would call the attention of the public to their large and elegant assortment of Gas Fixtures, Stoves, Furnaces, Brackets, etc. They also introduce gas-pipes into dwellings and public buildings, and attend to extending, altering, and repairing gas-pipes. All work warranted. 112 MEDICAL. CENTURY PLANT, MENTAL TONIC AND DIURETIC. IN every one who really has a patient whose name thanks to a doctor who restores him with Nectar, soon and fragrant, instead of rasping his throat and laying his whole interior with the bitter-sour of sulphur-treatment from six to eight months. \$1.50 a bottle; six for \$7.50. GORGAS & KOLLOCK, No. 212 CHESTNUT ST. REMOVED. GEORGE PLOWMAN. CARPENTER AND BUILDER. To No. 124 DOCK Street, PHILADELPHIA.