THE DAIL I EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1868.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OFINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS OPON CUBRENT TOPICS -COMPILED SYERT DAT FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The Late | piscopal Convention. From the N. Y. Times.

The entire absorption of the public mind in the grave questions which underlie the Presidential election has caused the proceedings of the recent Triennial Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States to be regarded with far less interest than naturally belongs to matters of so much real dignity and importance. The act is exceptional. It is only at intervals of twelve years that the sessions of tals body are coincident with the conduct of our most momentous political campaign, and at other times its deliberations attract, as they deserve, a degree of attention second to that which is bestowed on no other secular or religious organization. At this juncture, just as the Convention has adjourned, and just before the culmination of the political conflict at the polls, we may, perhaps, profitably submit one or two considerations suggested by the recent debates.

It may fairly be deemed a subject of congratulation that, in respect of geographical lines, the Protestaut Episcopal Church in this country was never before so thoroughly and cordially united llappily relieved of the disturbing element of slavery, which at all times heretolore threatened its severance at any moment, the Church now recognizes, indeed, no jealousies between North and South, and where antagonism might have otherwise been painfully expected, we have seen only the happlest manifestation of the "unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." This is no light or trivial matter, and gives the highest en-couragement for the future brotherhood of once discordant rections on the enduring basis of mutual forbearance and good-will.

It is also a hope ul sign of the times that in the recent discussions the most influential, if not the most prominent, part was borne by the laity. No one can have read the daily abstract of what was said and done in the Convention without being struck with this fact. We cannot and would not ignore, of course, the impression made by the speeches of such distinguished clerical deputies as Rev. Drs. Haight and Littl-john, of New York, Howe and Goodwin, of Pennsylvania, Mead, of Connecticut, Adams, of Wisconsin, Mahan, of Maryland, Andrews and Norton, of Virginia, and Gadsten, of South Carolina-all clear thinkers and forcible speakers, who never rose without commanding attention. And yet, after all, largely as the time of the Convention was taken up with the various topics upon which these able and learned divines touched in debate, it is clear that the action of the body was determined rather by the counsels of the distinguished laymen who had seats upon the floor. These deputies, indeed, abstained from frequent or protracted speaking, but upon all questions of parliamentary law, in pointing out the dangers of hasty and ill-considered legislation, and in warning the Convention from making canons which should possibly conflict with existing statute laws and other controlling influences of the various States, their advice was of the greatest significance and value. Few ecclesiastical assemblies have had so great a number of eminent practical men from the body of the people. The experience and learning of Samuel B. Ruggles and Hamilton Fish, of New York; the quick perception and thoughtful wisdom of Messra. Welsh and Conyngham, of Pennsylvania-the last named a Judge; the calm, clear mode of statement of Messrs. Battle, of North Carolina, Otis, of Illinoir, and Shefley, of Virginia-all accustomed to pronounce legal judgments from the bench; the sharp, incisive logic of Mr. McCrady, of South Carolina, and the sturdy good sense of Governor Stevenson, of Kentucky; these high intellectual endowments would have illustrated any deliberative assembly, no matter for what purposes brought together. The participation of such men in the affairs of the Church must enhance its efficiency in elevating secrety to the standard of Christian morals, at once benefitting Church and State by a direct and retroactive agency. All right-minded persons, within or with-out the communion of the Episcopal Church, will rejoice that the debates of the Convention were conducted throughout in the most courteous spirit, and that even upon points of difference, where schism had been feared but was happily averted, there was an amenity of temper that became Christian men seeking to serve the cause of their Master. Twice during the session, the ordinarily simple and conversational style of speech stirred the sympathy of all hearers. first occasion was in the statement by Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Texas, of the necessity of giving help to the B shop in discharging his Episcopal functions in that vast diocese. The second was in the presentation by Hon. B. Johnson Barbour, of Virginia, of a report on the destitution of the clergy and the nrgency of providing for their relief. Mr. Barbour's remarks were instinct with the deepest feeling and expressed in a phrase of unstadied yet maj-stic diction, and they commanded the greater attention from the fact that all saw and feit that at last the usefulness and perpetuity of the Church depended upon the recognition of the Scriptural precept, that the laborer is worthy of his hire.

spy new shot which comes to hand. Even John Bright, the most liberal of all the liberals, the most radical of all the radicals, begins to be afraid of his ancient friends. Some of them, the most prominent among them, are too levelling even for him. He feels himself compelled to go in for caution-to become to a certain extent concervative. When we remember that John Bright is almost certain to be a member of Mr. Gladatone's administration, we do not much wonder at this. But Mr. Disraeli is not the man not to see his chances in this complication and to tura those obsuces to his own advantage. The truth is, the liberal ranks are in dauger of splitting, and this is the very thing to give Mr. Disraeli his opportunity. Mr. Gludstone is certain now to be Premier of Great Britain as soon as forms will permit it. It is not less certain, however, that Mr. Disraeli will find in the new Parliament material to work upon seriously inconvenient to the Gladstone, Bright and Russell party, but by no means inconvezi-nt to himself and the more liberal of the tories. Great Britain will then know what we have not unfrequently experienced in this country when parties have split and extremes have met. There is but one lesson to be drawn from the situation. The people are in the ascendant, and the arisfocracy must make the best of it. Aristocratio England must become, will or nil, like and still more I ke demo ratio America. The people

The Nationalities Question in Europe. From the N. Y. Heraid.

must become sovereign.

On no subject in modern times has there been so much sense and so much nonsense spoken and written as on what, for the sake of distinctness, we may call the nationalities question in Europe. This question, though not exactly new, has been held so prominently before the public mind of the world since 1852 that the presumption is that history will identify it with the name of Napoleon the Taird and with the Second French Empire. More than any other it has been the European question for the last sixteen years.

What, then, is this question of nationalities? Briefly, in its popular and governmental acceptation, it amounts to this-that peoples, identical in their origin and revealing characteristics peculiar to a race should be regarded in the light of a nation and entitled to a pation's privileges. This doctrine in its application has begotten, not illogically, results the most diverse and apparently contradictory. It has, for example, swept out of existence all the petty kingdoms and duchies of Italy, and, with the single exception of the domains of the Pope, it has given the Italian peninsula to the Italians. It has produced similar fruit in Germany. For the first time in many generations Germany, under the lead of Prussia, has become a unit in fact, not in name merely. The unification in Germany has not as yet been miso complete as it is in Italy; but the tendency towards complete unification is, it possible, more decided in the former than in the latter. These are the most striking examples of the success of this doctrine. But the principle is at work elsewhere. It is firing the hearts of every Solavio people in the northeast of Europe, and it is now all but universally believed that if Russia is not to receive within her wide embrace the entire Slavonic 'family, a new kingdom or empire must spring up on the banks of the Danube. To the south of the Balkan range the principle is coually active. The Christians of that portion of the Turkish empire, proud of their Grecian origin and impatient of the domination of a foreign race, long and labor and pray for the reunion of their entire people and the establishment of a State worthy of their numbers and their ancient renown. The principle is at work in France, and encourages the annexation of Belgium as well as encroachments on the Rhine. It is not powerful, but it is not

at once new and surprising. Not only is all | the largest amount of material force adien-their old shot gone, but they are afraid to try | tifically applied will remain master of the situation. The nationality principle may continne to produce, fruit for a time, but it can lead to no permanent good. The steam engine, the railroad, the telegraph, the printing press -these, rather than the unification of nationalities, are the great civilizers of modern times.

Reconstruction. From the N. Y. World.

We recently printed an Boglish view of reconstruction, taken from the Patl Mall Gazette As it strikes the British mind, the American Congress has sought to place the chief powers of state in the South in the hands of the ignorant and pauper class-something never before attempted, save for a brief period in the French Revolution of 1793 -and fears are expressed lest so gross a procedure force a war of races. Similar views, it will be remambered, were expressed by Mr. Authony Trollope in his St. Paul's Magazine on this subj-ot, and as we said then we say now that the effect of a thorough understanding abroad of that gigantic atrooity, reconstruction, must be to impair foreign confi tence in our monetary credit. To the European, cotton is the backbone of our public wealth. The South, he knowe, makes cotton. Now, let him know that brutal misgovernment is rendering the South a bell upon earth, and he at once reasons back pretty much in this way: Disturbed South, decreased cottou; decreased cotton, impaired wealth; impaired wealth, reduced credit, and no more five-twenties for me. This is the argument as to the power of the United States to meet their bonds. But there is still another argamsut-that as to their will-that a comprehension of reconstruction will superinduce. From its incoption, and through every stage of its progress to its present state, we have seen this scheme marked with the most ra-cally violations of plighted faith, and know that it is perjury in its very ersen e, since it is confessedly action outside of the Constitution by men who took Almighty God to witness that they would only legislate within. Let this be seen and known in Europe, as we see and know it, and how long will it be before a marvellous distrust in American promises will prevail? Falsus in uno falsus in omnibus is a rule not altogether unknown or unacted on in Mark lane or on the Bourse.

There is another reflection, a domestic one, that is suggested by the article in the Pall Mall. It is this:-Ia dwelling on the statistics of reconstruction, much stress is laid on the figures in the case of South Carolina, but only because in South Carolina alone has anything like a complete exhibit been made. The Democratic Committee in that State put forth a detailed statement, which showed how many whites and negroes were in the pretended convention and legislature respectively, and what taxes these worthies severally paid, or rather did not pay. Coupled with this was a dissection of the thing called meonstitution; and the influence of this exhibit may be judged from the fact that it now comes back to us from England. As we have by no means done with reconstruction yet, it is desirable that in the other States of the South documents similar to the one above described in the case of Sonth Carolina be prepared, and in trust to assist such effort as may be made we subjoin a evilabus for general guidance: -1. An alphabetical list of those making up

the so-called convention, giving, first, color; second, nativity; third, length of residence in State where alien; fourth, amount of taxes paid; and fifth, record specifying particularly how many acted as election judges when themselves candidates, and how many have been in the penitentiary or otherwise made amenable to the criminal law. This latter is suggested from the faot that as many as two penitentiary convicts have been known in a single one of these reconstruction conventiong.

2. A like list of the pretended legislatures. Same as to pretended State officers. 4. Synopsis of "moral ideas" in the negro ST constitutions, and of the carpet-bag laws.

fade, but the integrity of the popular elec-tions, one broken down, can never be regained.

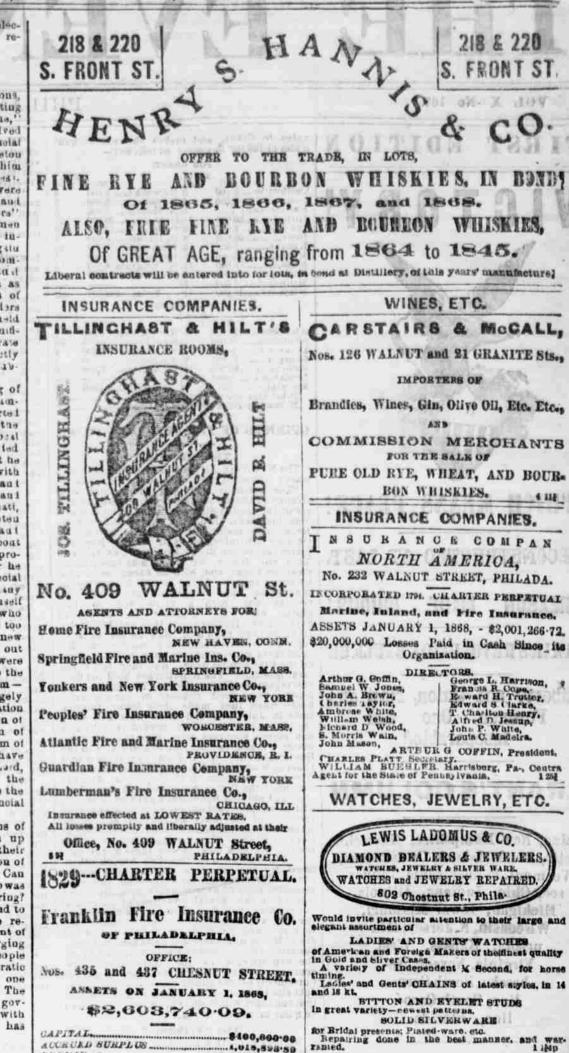
Push the Financial Issue ! From the Bultimore American.

Mr. S-ymour, prior to the October elections, orled out to his followers who were conducting the campaign to "push the financial issue," and abandon all the other questions involved in the Presidential campaign. The "fluancial issue" had been pushed by Mr. Pendleton until it was found advisable to withdraw him from the canvass, nuder the plea of sickness. Repudiation and depresia ed greenbasks were ound to be uppalatable to all honorable and h mest men, and the ' bloated boudholders' were found to be mechanics, farmers, and men of small means, who hat their little all invested in Government scourtfies. Then again it was found that more than a million of comparatively poor men, who were not actual bolders of bonds, were interested in them as depositors in savings banks, as holders of policies of life insurance, and as stockholders in national banks. The capitalists who held bonds were discovered to be few and insignificant, in comparison with men of molerate means whose all was directly or indirectly interested in a strict maintenanus of the payhe credit.

Mr. ceymour, finding that the "pushing of the ' financial issue'' as laid down in the Tammany platform had worked batty, started out on a stumping expedition to array the West against the North on question of local floance. At the North he prolently avoited the question of floance, whilst at the We the charged the Democratic city of New York with a monopoly of the circulating medium, and with grinding and oppressing the poor and innocent merchants of Culoago, Cincinnati, and St. Louis. He went forth to ealighten the three most prosperous, enterprising, aut energetic cities of the West on a question about which the most dull and unsopuistic ited produce dealer has torgotten more than ever he knew. In short, he has "pushed the financial "question" entirely outside of the Tammany platform, and in such a way as to make himself appear ridiculous in the eyes of those who understand the laws of trade, and have too much experience to be misled by this new financial bugaboo that he has trotted out before them. His speeches in New York were mainly devoted to an endeavor to prove to the people that if elected he could do no harm both branches of Congress being largely sgsinst him-and that his administration could be nothing more than a continuation of the unsettled and unsatisfactory condition of affairs that has prevailed during the term of Andrew Johnson. To this the people have already devoutly exclaimed, "Good Land, deliver us," and we doubt not that the people of the West will as earnestly make the same exclamation in view of the new financial platform laid down by Mr. Seymour.

It has been said that the politicians of Tammany Hall have from the first given up the election of Seymour and Blair, but their main object has been to secure the election of Mr. Hoffman as Governor of New York. Can it be that Mr. Seymour's speech at Chicago was intended to strike back at the Tammany ring? -to array the West sgainst the North, and to damage the cause of Mr. Hoffman? We regard his Chicago speech as the arraignment of the money kings of Tammany Hall, charging hem with grinding and oppressing the people of the West. New York being a Democratic city, we cannot see wherein he makes one point sgainst the Republican party. The "firancial issue" he has raised is one governed altogether by mercantile laws, with which matter the President or Congress has nothing to do.

-An Australian edition of the works of Edgar Allen Poe has just been published in Melbo



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INCOME FOR 1807

America In England-The Stump. From the N. Y. Heraid,

We have long been familiar in this country with the word "stump." It is purely American. It has among ourselves a distinctive meaning, and most of us know what that meaning is. In Europe it is now and it has long been a word richly suggestive of the specialties of American political life. America in Europe, rightly or wrongly, has come to mean the United States. In Europe, therefore, but especially in Great Britsin, the word "stump" has come to signify a special and distinctive feature of the political life of the United States. Great Britain used to scout it, but Great Britain at last-thanks to the genius of Disraeli -has been compelled to accept the "stump" as a necessity. It is no new thing for candidates for Parliamentary honors to itinerate within the limits of their constituencies; but it is a new thing for first class men to submit to the meanness and drudgery which humbler men could not avoid-the meanness of making speeches to so-called sons culoties and clodhoppers. To this meanness Mr. Giadstone has submitted, and this, wwwn according to the English press, is a humination, a revolution. Mr. Disraeli has carried a Reform bill which gives the people a power they naver had be-fore; which compels the aristocracy of birth and the aristocracy of intellect to shake hands with the people; which has broken down au the old barrier lines and forced equality; and this Reform bill has placed Great Britain, in spite of Mr. Gladstone or any other genius, in the hands of the people. Great Britain is now virtually a republic, with all a republic's difficulties.

In connection with this matter it is impossible to overlook the fact that the reforms inaugurated by Disraeli have completely tripped

wholly inactive in Spain and Portugal; and it is not improbable that it may reveal its strength at no distant day by giving unity to the whole peninsula. In all those cases the nationality principle

has led to the extinction of petty governments and to the agglomeration of States. The result has been unification, and unification, if not forced, must be accepted as a gain to humanity. Unification, however, is not always the fruit of this principle. In some quarters it tears asunder with a violence even more fierce than that with which elsewhere it strives to unite. To the Government of Queen Victoria it has proved as great an inconvenience as it has been found a convenience by Victor Emanuel of Italy and William of Prussia. The Irish people, claiming to be of a different race to their neighbors across the channel, insist on their rights as a nationality-which means, of course, the establishment of an Irish kingdom or of an Irish republic. It has worked and it is still working destruction in Austria. It has already reut the empire of the Hapsburgs in twain. Hangary, although she calls Fraucis Joseph king, has practically severed herself from the empire. What Hungary has won Galicia and Bohemia seek to acquire. The result in Austria has been, not unity and autonomy, but dualism; and dualism threatens to become pluralism, which means the dismemberment and destruction of the empire. The finit of the nationality doctrine has thus not been an unmixed good. If it has been the occasion of joy it has also been the occasion of sorrow. It it continues to work as actively in the early future as it has done in the immediate past, it will completely transform the map of Europe; but it will still be a question whether the transformation will be a gain to civilization. Inasmuch as nationalities are not all equally strong, there will still be weak governments, and time will be requisite to prove whether the weak will be more gently dealt with by the strong under the new condition of things than they were under the old. Much as this doctrine has accomplished in Europe, and much as it may yet accomplish, it would not be difficult to show that it rests on no solid foundation, that community of religion and language has more to do with the desire for autonomy than identity of race, and that the nationality doctrine has been and that it is likely to remain rather a useful instrument in the hands of designing rulers than a source of substantial good to the peoples. It is well that Italians should have Italy. It is well that Germany should be a unit. It is well that Hangary and Ireland should be free. But when we look to the example of the United States, where all nationalities, as almost all religions, live and thrive together, we are tempted to ask the question whether there is not, after all, very nearly as much nonsense as sense in the nationality principle, and whether there is not a better and a nobler way of securing the peace and prospe-rity of mankind? In the United States of America Europe sees the only true method o solving her difficulties. Our immense territory, with its undeveloped wealth, is open and free to all. We know no nationality but one. Our growth and presperity will by-and-by force Europe out of her old grooves. The struggles of nationalities cau lead to but one result each successive struggle will leave the strong stronger and the weak more helpless. The weaker States will be merged into the mere powerful. The number of independent

States will steadly diminish nntil at last that have present of \$150 of the scamped and through a

The Purity of the Ballot, From the Cincinnati Gaz-tle.

Destruction of the integrity of the ballot is the destruction of republican government. When rulers are elected by fraudulent ballots the Government ceases to have the rightfulness which comes from the consent of the governed. No man can respect a government inposed on him by a cheat, or seel that he owes any allegiance to laws enacted or executed by men who have stolen into power. When fraud becomes a system for carrying the elections, the government becomes meaner than the meanest hereditary despotism. A depent dynasty, to rule by the right of birth would be a vast improvement on such a gov ernment of thieves. No people ever had so urgent a cause, for revolution as a people would have whose forms of election were degraded to contrivances for putting swindlers in power over them.

The Democratic party have boldly attempted this degradation of our Government by a vast conspirccy for the fabrication of false votes enough to carry the Presidential election. One of the principal means for this is in the manufacture of fraudulent naturalization papers. The process has been discovered in o many places, and over so wide an extent, that it is impossible to resist the conclusion that it is the working of an organized general plan. The testimony taken at New York before the United States Commissioner, shows that naturalization papers have been procured at wholesale by brokers who peddled tham to Democratic committees at a stipulated price. There was no limit to the number that was offered to be furnished. Wretches as vile as those who made a brokerage on Mr. Johoson's pardoning power were engaged in this brokerage of faire certificates of naturalization.

In Philadelphia the same system has been practised on a monstrons scale. It has been discovered in two districts in Ohio, in dimensions which were intended to be large enough to prevail in turning the elections. It was, and is, intended to carry the Presidential election by this and other frauds. And now, since the practice was revealed, the course of the Democratio journals is a virtual defense of it. They give no signs of any sense of the nature of the crime, but they try to shelter it behind the technicalities of the law. Ba what if the Republicans were base enough to resort to the same means ? Then our election would be governed by money. The party that had the most money to spend in fabricating voters would seize the Government. It would use the public revenues to carry the electionby fraud. This would be a vastly meaner system than that in which the Roman army put up the crown to the highest bidder.

Not only to restore the public peace, but to save our elections from the degradation of being carried by fraud, must the people defeat the Democratic party. We cannot but believe that there are many thousands in the Democratic ranks who would rather that Grant should be elected than that the integrity of the election should be violated in order to put the Democratio party in power. We appeal to these to cast their votes in favor of preserving the purity of the ballot, and not to follow their party managers in destroying the soul of popular government for the sake of party up the liberals. They find the situation to be | State or government which shall command | ascendancy. Parties may flourish and may

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