## SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS-COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING THIEGRAPH.

## The President's Salary.

From the N. Y. Tribune. The New York Times urges an increase of the annual compensation of our Presidents from \$25,000 to \$100,000. It says:-

"We proposed some days ago that the salary of the President of the United States should be advanced to what it was fifty years ago. Nominally, it stands now as it was then. But impoint of fact—that is in point of purchasing power—\$25,000 is not one-half, if it be any more than one-quarter, as much at this day as it was at the beginning of the century. Take the cost of living now and compare it with what it was then—take the relation of income and expenditure and compare them with what they then then—lake the relation of income and expendi-ture and compare them with what they then were—and it will at once be apparent that if the President's salary were put at \$25,000 when the Government was founded, it ought to be es-tablished, to say the least, at \$100,000 at the pre-

The existing rate is not enough, and has not for years been enough, to maintain the President in a proper manner. The President is compelled, by virtue of his position, to incur many expenses that are, more or less, of a public nature; and as this ganow are, he must ther economize in a small way upon these, or else he must lose the advantages which they are calculated to give to the public business, the administration, and the country. It is customary for the President, at his discretion and pleasure, to entertain publicly members of both houses of Congress, the members of the diplomatic corps, important foreign personages and other visitors, and, in fact, many representa-tive individuals whom ne would never propose to invite to his table as a private gentleman. These things subtract very largely from the sum that is intended to go to his own personal support; and, if he were to entertain in anything like the style common to thousands of private citizens in all the great cities of the country, he would not only find nimself without a dollar to supply his own table, but would soon plunge himself largely in debt."

Comments by The Tribune.

There is much weight in some of the considerations adduced by the Times, and we are newise disposed to belittle them. We admit that \$100,000 per annum now would not be a higher saiary for our President in 1869 than \$25,000 was during Washington's administration, when our total population was but 4,000,000, the demands of the station far less, and the purchasing power of money much greater than at present. In short, we concede, to save time, most of the Times' premises. Now hear the other side: -

The United States owe a gigantic National Debt. The sum of \$2,500,000,000, which is palpable to all, is supplemented by a pension list of \$25,000,000 per annum, by bounties and claims yet to be adjusted, by annuities to Indians, etc. etc. We ought to pay not less than \$200,000,000 per annum to meet the annual interest and reduce the principal of our debt; while it is not possible to run the Government at a cost (including pensions) of less than \$100,000,000 more; making \$300, 000,000 in all, whereof nearly half must be raised by internal taxes. Our choice would be to raise \$400,000,000 per annum, and pay off the last fraction of the debt within the next twenty years or less; but we have not been able to make members of Congress regard the matter as we do. Yet we should fearlessly appeal to the people, if a clear issue could be made, in the confident hope that they would vote to be taxed enough to pay off, with frugal management, at least \$100,000,000 of the principal of the debt per annum.

Now, such payment, or any payment at all in reduction of the principal of the debt, involves stringent taxation. We ask the people to bear such taxation, in order to save their grandchildren from the burden of a huge debt. They cheerfully respond to the appeal. But let them see that their heavy taxes do no insure a reduction of the debt-that the money is used up in higher salaries, larger allow ances, etc., etc.-aud their shoulders will ache and they become restless under the burden.

The Times, we do not forget, proposes that the President's salary alone shall be increased. But that would prove neither just nor practicable. If the President is to have \$100,000 per annum, the Heads of Departments should have not less than \$20,000 each: nay, they should have \$30,000. Your Secretary of State must sink into a mere clerk if the President is to give sumptuous weekly dinners, while he must be content with a monthly dole of diplomatic bread and cheese. So, measurably, with the rest. To give the President \$100,000 and leave his Cabinet officers to vegetate on \$8000. would create more injustice and heart-burning than it would care. Our diplomatic salaries, also, would have to be increased.

We are among those who believe that a very considerable reduction of salaries, emoluments, and allowances is practicable and desirable. We hold that the cost of collecting our revenue, for instance, is greater than it need or should be. We may not be able to point precisely to the leaks which should be stopped; but we expect much, though we have promised little, from General Grant's administration in the way of retrenchment and reform. But suppose we begin by quadrupling the President's salary, will not the demand for retrenchment be paralyzed? Will not every subordinate feel and say that it is mean to pare down his \$200 or \$300 per month, while we put up the President's allowance from \$25,000 to \$100,000 per annum?

The President is poorly paid. We would gladly see him more liberally dealt with. There is one, and but one, way in which this can be done without paralyzing the effort which should be earnestly made to retrench the cost of running the Government. That way lies through a resumption of specie pay-

## Suffrage and the States.

From the N. Y. Times. The Fourteenth amendment, as General Rawlins in his Galena speech remarked, "places the all-important question of citizenship beyond the caprice of States or the varying decisions of courts, and corrects gross misconceptions regarding the rights of citizens." By this new provision of the Constitution citizenship is nationalized in a more comprehensive sense than previously prevailed; the States being now for the first time forbidden to "make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of

citizens." From the operation of this amendment suffrage is exempted. The States may continue to impose other than penal disfranchisement upon citizens, but at the cost of a proportionate reduction in the basis of representation. Arbitrary disfranchisement, resting on race or color, is thus made politically unprofitable to the States enacting it. Aside from the payment of this penalty, the States retain full control over the conditions of voting within their boundaries. If any further change is made affecting it, they, or three-fourths of them, must give their consent, as it can only

be done by amending the Constitution. Shall conzent be sought, then, to an amendment nationalizing suffrage on an impartial basis? Shall the States be asked to surrender their exclusive authority over the subject, to abandon conflicting regulations in regard to it, and to become parties to a constitutional measure vesting the whole, absolutely, in Cougress? The question is one which the country

cided gain on the part of more moderate Re-publicans. The right of Congress, by a mere legislative act, to establish uniformity of suffrage throughout the Union has, until re-cently, been affirmed by those who demanded its exercise in behalf of colored citizens everywhere. That this pretension is now tacitly surrendered, and that those who urged it join in the proposition to seek the end desired by an amendment to the Constitution, is a circumstance that augurs well for the final settlement of the subject. At least, it proves that a vexatious agitation is to be avoided, and that the propriety of providing for the relin-quishment of a cherished States' right, and its transfer to the National Government, is a matter to be discussed on its merits, and to be effected, if at all, in the constitutional way.

Nationality of suffrage would seem to be the ogical corollary of nationalized citizenship. If the citizen of one State is, under the Constitution, a citizen of all the States, should not his relation to the franchise be everywhere the same? If he is eligible to vote in South Carolina, ought he not also to be eligible-subject to be qualifications as to duration of residence -in New York! And if in New York, why not in Missouri? To declare otherwise is practically to enrtail citizenship, and to allow States to raise obstacles to the harmonious working of the principle implied in the first section of the Fourteenth amendment. Yet this discrepancy does now exist. There are many thousands of citizens voting in South Carolina who would be disfranchised by the law of New York; and thousands in New York who, living in Misseuri, would by a local statute be deprived of the franchise. If for no other purpose than to establish uniformity as to conditions of voting, much may be said in behalf of Congressional action which shall bring the question under the consideration of the State Legislatures.

But there is a question of right which must come up in the same connection. The nation has thrown the gates of citizenship wide open to the colored race. It has, in effect, declared that distinctions based on color, in their operations affecting political rights and privileges, are unjust and inexpedient. On this ground it has forced negro suffrage on the South; and in at least 'ten of the Southern States those who most loudly protested against it in the first instance now announce their acceptance of it and their readiness to work under it. If the Democrats of Georgia and South Carolina are not atraid of enfranchised colored citizens, though they are there politically powerful, can Northern Republicans object to their enfranchisement in States where they form but a fraction of the population? Their citizenship being conceded, is it proper to brand them as unfit to vote solely because of the color of their skin? And if it is both safe and desirable to blot out the distinction originating in slavery and maintained by an irrational prejudice, does not a constitutional amendment afford the best means of accomplishing the object?

A liberal policy dictates the change in the interest of disfranchised whites as well as of disfranchised blacks. In the reconstructed States the number of the former is inconsiderable, and even these are limited to one or two of the States recently restored. But in Missonri and Teppessee the class is very large. By transferring the suffrage question from the States to the General Government, therefore, irritating remnants of the Rebellion may be removed, and the foundations of representative power laid as broadly as the most exacting demands of justice could require. The Republican party is pledged to this policy, so far as it applies to disabilities imposed on whites on account of the Rebellion, and the propriety of carrying it out without unnecesthe attention of Congress. This particular only by the proposed amendment of the Constitution, which may thus commend itself to the triendly attention of the Legislatures, both North and South.

General Grant's Election-The Prospect for the Defeated Democracy. From the N. Y. Herald.

In the election of General Grant the Democratic party has suffered a heavy defeat. In the October elections they fought with the resolution, activity, and tenacity of General Lee in his efforts to hold intact his lines around Petersburg; but after the loss of Pennsylvania and Indiana the Democratic rank and file, like Lee when driven from his entrenchments, seemed only intent upon saving their shattered columns from annihilation. The managers of the Tammany Seymour and Blair Convention had presumed too much upon the apparent political reaction of 1867, as in 1863-64 they presumed too much upon the popular manifestations of 1862. In each case, in falling back upon the extreme Copperhead idess that the war was a failure, and that the "Union as it was" must be reestablished, the Democracy undertook the hopeless battle of the Bourbons.

Where are they now? From their decisive defeat, and from all the circumstances of their position, they will be compelled to east about for a new line of departure and a reorganization, not upon the dead issues of the past, but upon the living issues of the present time. Their fatal mistake in the late canvass was that they made it the fight of the ex-Rebsls of the South against the reconstruction laws of Congress. The Northern Democratic mansgers in this were too fast in submitting to the demands of the Southern delegates of the Convention, most of whom had been among the leaders of the "lest cause." Thus, in the Tammany platform the declaration that the reconstruction laws of Congress were "unconstitutional, revolutionary, null and void," we had, only in other words, the repetition of the Chicago platform of 1864, that the war was a failure, and that we must have peace upon any terms acceptable to the ex-Confederate party of the South. In the face of this bold and revolutionary issue all the outrageous doings for the last four years of a radical Congress, and all the vast schedule of corruptions, blunders, frauds, wastages, and profligate expenditures of the party in power were eclipsed and became secondary questions in the campaign. In a word, the Tammany Convention took the very ground desired by the Republicans, and the result is the overwhelming election of Grant and Colfax and another Republican Congress of more than two-thirds in the Senate and within a dozen changes or so of a two-thirds vote in the House.

We may safely assume, then, that the Southern reconstruction system adopted by Congress, subject to the Constitutional amendment, article fourteen, will stand. General Grant, in his famous correspondence of last February with President Johnson, which broke the nose of Chase as the radical favorite, has, on the War Department imbroglio, left upon record his position upon reconstruction. will, as President, recognize the existing laws, and whatever modifications he may recommend in reference to the unreconstructed States will doubtless rest upon the Constitutional amendment aforesaid. That amendment, among other things, proclaims all persons born or naturalized in the United States citizens thereof and of the States in which they reside en a footing of civil equality; that suffrage and representation shall go together, as each State for itself may choose; that certain will soon be called to consider. The fact that parties guilty of rebellion against the United toomes up only in this shape indicates a de-States shall be disfranchised and disqualified

for office, subject to a two-thirds vote of each by a set of crazy theorizers and morbid senti-house of Congress; and that Congress shall mentalists, who are destitute of common sense, have power by appropriate legislation to enforce the provisions of this article. Thus in the reconstructed as well as in the unrecon structed Southern States, and in New York as well as in South Carolina or Texas, Congress has the power to enforce this amendment; and we dare say that in the interval to the 4th of March next a law will be passed for carrying into effect throughout the United States the provisions of said amendment.

Some new amendment has been hinted at embracing a uniform universal manhood suffrage; but meanwhile the amendment officially proclaimed, we may assume, will be carried into effect. In this view the question of reconstruction may be considered as settled, however unpalatable to the extreme radicals may be the provision of this amendment fourteen, which gives to each State the discretion of a universal or restricted suffrage, subject only with a restriction of the ballot to a correspending restriction in counting the people for representation in Congress and in the Presidential Electoral College. What, then, becomes the future programme of the Democratic party? Not a useless war against amendment fourteen, under which they may very soon recover all the Southern States, but a recognition of fixed facts and a new departure against the financial blunders and excesses of the dominant party, and in favor of a positive and clearly defined system of retrenchment and reform.

This will do for the present; but under the incoming administration new issues will certainly spring up, which in their agitation may afford a fine opportunity to the Democrats to cut in between the contending Republican factions and carry off the balance of power. At all events, the first important necessity devolving upon the Democratic leaders is the abandonment of the dead issues, and a recognition of this fixed fact, that the "Constitution as it was," "the Union as it was," and State sovereignty as it was, are among the wrecks of the deluge.

These Vineland Women.

From "Brick" Pomeroy's N. Y. Democrat, They voted. Yes they did. And they have told of it. They have sent the canvass to the newspapers, and want to be counted in. Pat 'em in. They'll do for a certain kind of political arithmetic. They go to swell the aggregate when a fellow wants to get up big figures. It is no worse than to first count the whole adult white male population of a State, and then assume that one-half are disfranchised, and after counting them in once as a part of the whole, then add them in again under a distinct head. In this way a State which has in all only 200,000 adult white males can easily be shown to have 300,000 of the same class who ought to vote. This kind of political arithmetic is of all things conceivable the most charming. It is fully worthy of the imaginative gentleman who wrote up the 'albows of the Mincio' for poor Raymond one night, and has furnished the Herald a rich theme, for these dozen years, when it wanted to be a little malicious on the Times. And Raymond has borne it like a martyr, saying never a word.

But revenons à nos mouton. Let us return to these women. They have succeeded, to a certain degree, in unsexing themselves, and they are probably mightly set up by it They, no doubt, think they must now wear the breeches, at least half the time, putting the petticoats on to their husbands, and leaving them at home to tend babies, wash the dishes. bake bread, etc., while they go out on to the streets and into the shops, talking politics, and advocating woman emancipation. They sary delay is a question that cannot escape say niggers vote, and why shouldn't they The poor deluded dears! don't they think form of disability, however, can be reached themselves any better than niggers? Must they do things because niggers do them? We are afraid they haven't well considered the bearing of this question. They might do things which would be very shocking. We fear they would become dreadfully filthy and vile, if they were to follow out this argument to its logical result.

But, seriously, what an unwomanly feeling this is, which prompts our female humans to aspire to positions which God and nature never intended them to occupy-never fitted them for. Those who thus step out of their appropriate sphere are exceptionable, ill-organized beings, at war with the God that made them, and striving to trample on His laws, as revealed in His holy word and stamped upon their mental, physical, and moral organizations. The trouble with these few restless spirits is, that they want to be men. But they can't be. They are women. God made them so, and thus they have got to remain to the end of their days. Then let them be content to be women. If they will get rid of this monomania and become true women, they can, in a good, virtuous, legitimate way, become the mothers of mon, and mould their character, and in that way influence and guide society to a far greater and more beneficial extent than by unsexing themselves and pitching into politics. thing it would be to see our wives and daughters on the stump, wrangling on politics in public places, electioneering in a hot canvass, and yelling and squalling and pulling and hauling at the polls on election day.

This morbid desire to do in society and in public affairs all that men do, shows that these misguided women do not recognize any distinction between the duties and spheres of men and women. Confound and destroy this distinction, and society would lose its chief charm, domestic life its order, harmony, and happiness, and the cause of morals receive the severest blow ever yet inflicted upon it.

Where would this kind of thing end, it encouraged and made to prevail? There are different classes of duties in life, to one of which man is adapted, and to the other woman. They cannot change places without the whole order of society being broken up. They cannot mix up and perform those duties indiscriminately and promiscuously, without producing great disorder and bringing on fear-

ful evils. The kind of spirit manifested by these women will in the end lead them to regard it as degrading, and unworthy of such bright ethereal beings, to wear woman's crown as wives and mothers. Good gracious! Won't we be in a bad fix when it comes to that? Hold on, now, this won't do. This kind of thing must be stopped. The good old mothers of Israel used to regard it as a blessing, and the highest glory of their sex, to become the mothers of men. And, remember, the "jewels" of the famous Roman mother, 'the mother of the Gracchi." Tut! tut Let's hear no more of this. Be women. Be

What do these people want? Are they not treated with all the respect that mortal could wish? Are they not the objects of chivalrous courtesy? Are they not loved and cherished in the domestic circle, and cared for with the utmost tenderness? Does not man toil and struggle for them far more than for himself Are not the laws just and liberal toward them, and is not every amelioration granted that is needed for their protection? What more would they have if they be just-minded, true

That they are not satisfied with all this shows that they are misoreations-that they shows that they are misoreations—that they are yearning for a masculinity which nature has depied them. They are encouraged in it

mentalists, who are destitute of common sense, and whose minds are incapable of making just discriminations. We suspect that when these people get exhausted upon the negro question, they will go in strong on the women. The current seems to be turning in that direction. The Jacobin pulpit is ready to give the thing a list. That fellow who, the Sunday before election, pretended that he was about his "Father's business," in preaching politics, and trying to put breeches on to women, has set the movement on foot. This question will soon be in politics. The Jacobins are preparing for it. It is the Jacobin wom-n who are going into it. We have no fear of its spreading among Democratic women, or that many decent women of any class will become infected by it. But those Vineland women have got it bad. Just look at the vote-192 in all-4 Lemocratic, 188 Republican. The woman that reports the result is very careful to state that four colored women voted-"all for Grant." That's right and we are glad that so many of the rest of these foolish women voted "for Grant." would not have it otherwise for one of the World's political tables.

To be sure, they did not vote at the men's pell, and their votes were not embraced in the legal canvass. But no matter. They voted. And they voted in the same rooms where the men did. Don't they think it was very womanly? Of course they do, for they have told all about it in the newspapers. Poor deluded creatures, much we pity you.

The Little Came.

From the N. F. World. The latest phase of the little game is to keep the two-thirds. As matters now stand the radicals are some ten or twelve short of a two-thirds in the Forty-first Congress. To do away with this overplus of Democrats and thereby put the ring in Grant's nose, should the General prove restive, is a prime object, and this is the way they mean to do it. imprimis, the word has gone out from Washafter all, defeated in Mississippi by 7629 votes, as officially reported by the district commander, being thrown out - was carried. Wherethe affair has been "duly ratified and adopted," and divers carpet-bag and negro gentry elected be sure.

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ington and waked into galvanio life a certain select decoction, five in number, of that learned body that, from the antecedents of its membership, was known as the Mississippi Chain-gang Convention. This decoction, styled committee, has all of a sudden discovered that the negro constitution was not, but-seven strong anti-constitution counties fore the said quintriple crew, in a rescript dated the third of this month, announce that as State officers and to Congress. These latter resurrections being five in number, it follows that, on the adoption of this manifesto by Congress, as it will be adopted, the trooly loil will add at one fell blow five brand-new carpet-bag votes to their depleted ranks. Further than this, it has been ascertained, as a Washington special to the Post is good enough to tell us, that there was such "Rebel terrorism" in Louisiana as kept the loil negroes, who made bread and meat for the Confederate armies when they could not have been forced so to do, from the polls. This means, of sourse, that a sufficient number of affidavits at \$--apiece have been prepared to make a good basis for casting out the five Louisiana Democratic Congressmen elect, whereby it but remains for the loil to oust two, or, at most, three more Demecrats to get their two-thirds. This is soon done, as it is now being "ascertained" that in Georgia there was also a terrorism which lost the State to Grant. This dene, out go seven Georgia Democrats, and voila! the two-thirds. Then let Let-us-havepeace wag his head Johnsonizingly at us if he dare, and we, unto whom is given the fulness of the earth, not forgetting the two-thirds, will show him on which side of the hedge shines the sun. What a little game it is, to

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