The Era of Good Feeling. From the N. Y. Tribune.

The Savannah Republican, in an effort to show "what is necessary to an era of good feeling," argues that the North must sur-render certain "ideas" or convictions which now occupy the Nor hern mind. The censtitutional difficulty with our Southern brethren is that they always demand the surrender of that which in its nature is incapable of being surrendered. If they would merely ask a change in our laws or a surrender of our purres, we might gratify them. But in de-manding a change in our "ideas" and convictions of right or of relative excellence, they are asking the only thing it is impossible for us to grant. The first idea we are called on to surrender is stated to be "the desire on the part of the North, for purposes of their own, to force the Southern people to discard the old bond of nuion, and enter into a new one with them, never contemplated in the formation of the Government, or proposed until the physical preponderance was proved to be against us." This assumes that the "old bond of union," was one in which the State had the right to secede. Our Southern triends will witness the era of good feeling long be-

fore the North sanctions the right of secession. The Republican's second requirement is, of course, that we shall allow none but the Rebels of the South to vote. It says: -

"The North goes even further than this. insists that we shall organize a society in the South and come under the jurisdiction of laws that have no force or existence at the North. In government for the South and another kind of the North, and still both continue to exist to-gether as one homogeneous political society. Is such a demand just? Is it even considerate.

The falsehood of this statement consists in assuming that "the South" includes only the Democrats of the South, and that the legislative inaction of the North relative to negro suffrage here expresses the conscience of the same Republican party which has granted impartial suffrage to the South. The assumption that the South opposes negro suffrage overlooks two fifths of the people of the South who desire it. The assumption that "the North" intends to grant suffrage to the negro at the South and not at the North everlooks the fact that the whole Democratic party of the North opposes negro suffrage everywhere alike, and nine-tenths of the Republican party favors it everywhere alike. The remaining tenth of the Republican party, combining with the Democratic party, retard but cannot long prevent suffrage from being without distinction of color. Meanwhile, it is the Republican party South and North that extends the suffrage, and it is the Democratic party that delays its extension without regard to locality. The Republican party would find it difficult to surrender any of those fundamental ideas of political equality on which its very existence depends and by which all its success has been won. Nor are political parties prone to surrender the ideas which make them vic-

We beseech our Southern friends, therefore, not to postpone the "era of good feeling" so long. We are ready to help the South with working men, intelligent, highly educated women, plenty of capital to reconstruct its plantations, develop its mines, and start its manufactories, rebuild its ruined railroads. and convert its wilderness into a garden. But the first essential to a genuine era of good feeling must be that everybody shall be invited. The Calvinistic theory, according to which an essential element in the enjoyment of the elect is to be the contemplation of the distinguishing grace which has selected them for exalted bliss, while others, no more undeserving, are consigned to unspeakable woe, may do very well in theology as a theory of the next life, but it does not answer in politics, or as a model for government. At least having tried it, and abolished it, we are not hapkering to return to it. Another condition of the "era of good feeling" must be that everybody shall have leave to tell whether he feels well or ill. This involves that freedom of speech, of the press, and of thought, of which Southern Democrats have not been the most consistent champions.

We are fully conscious that we need to restore in the South an era of good feeling. To this end the chief means must be to make Southern industry profitable, and the Southern working class free, not only from all human masters, but from the most inhuman of all masters-want. Adam Smith argues that slavery arises whenever two men are seeking one master. Freedom begins only when two masters are seeking to employ the labor of one man. The South has the cotton, the cheap labor, the water and coal power, the brains, the demand, and no small share of the capital necessary to set running fifty thousand cotton manufactories and twenty million spindles. This would reverse the present condition of both blacks and whites at the South. Where now ten helpless laborers are seeking to be employed by one master, there would then be two masters competing for the labor of one man. Herein lies true freedom for the working class, rapid incresse in wealth for all classes, and that general "era of good feeling" for which the South is looking. But to this end there must be peace, protection to capital and labor, and a vigorous suppression of Ku-Klux-Klaus and the entire "mob and marder" spirit. Will the Savannah Republican labor to bring about these conditions of the 'era of good feeling,?"

Convenient Ignorance of the Indian

Bureau.

From the N. Y. Times. There used to be a somewhat malicious saying during the Rebellion, that, whenever news came of a Union defeat, its details were told in the largest capitals by certain of the Northern press; on the other hand, when the tidings were of victory, "no particulars have yet been received."

Without pushing the parallel too far, we must yet protest that, invariably, when news has come from the Plains of a horrible massacre committed by the Indians (like the Fetterman slaughter, or those on the Solomon, Saline, and Republican forks), or, of a welldeserved "salty dose" administered to them, like Forsyth's fight or Caster's battle, the Indian Bureau receives "no particulars at this office confirming the rumor." But let there be some shortcoming or crime on our part, a Hancock campaign or a Chivington massacre, and full details reach the same Bureau in seven-leagued boots.

To apply this generalization more specially, we find that, in the face of the two official reports of General Sheridan, and the two of General Sherman, announcing the late vic-tory on the Wachita, the Indian Bureau reports that "no particulars have been received here." Nor is this all. It starts the old cry of "elaughtering the innocents," and claims that the Indians who were punished had never

(together with the Camauches) were the very ones sgainst whom the campaign was chiefly directed. Next, we have the word of General Sheridan himself, twice repeated, that Black Kettle's band was the one that commenced the robbery and murder, the ranche-burning, cattle-stealing, train-plundering, mail-break-ing raids on Solomon's creek, and thereabouts, early in last summer. Next, we have General Sherman's repetition of this identification. Finally, we have General Custer's assurance that the party he attacked had just come from the North; he struck their fresh trail near the

Antelope hills. War is cruelty at best; war with a different race of men, of different principles, manners, and language, and habitually using these differences for deceit—with a savage race, that gives no quarter except for selfish ends, and has untold horrors in its records, crying for vengeance-war under such circumstances is apt to be fierce and terrible. But it is unwise and unjust to endeavor to strike down the uplifted arm of our own soldiers. They are defenders, not aggressors-defenders of the frontier, of the settlers, of the families of pioneers, of our railroads, and of the general march of civilization. They are the guards of our national progress, the police of the Plains. To represent them as bloody butchers is like maligning our Metropolitan Police for putting down a mob or unearthing a gang of cut-

This device of the Indian Bareau is evidently designed as a counter-stroke to Custer's victory. The waning prestige of the Bureau needs to be supported. The army and the agents have hitherto been rivals for the care of the Indians, and the Bureau reads the doom of its policy in the recommendation of General Grant to transfer it from the Interior to the War Department. We do not believe its devices for a fresh lease of power will influence Congress.

Jenckes' Civil Service Bill.

From the N. Y. World. But the essential work the bill proposes to "But the essential work the bill proposes to
do is to prevent the appointment of incompetent persons to subordinate positions in the
executive departments. It aims to do this by
providing that all such appointments shall be
made from among those persons who can provatheir competency under a fair examination.

* * Appointments to office in the executive
departments are now generally made on the
recommendation of prominent politicians,
especially of members of Congress, with no especially of members of Congress, with no reference at all to competency. The best accountant in the United States would have no chance whatever of getting into the civil ser-vice of the country, under the present system, without political influence."—Evening Post.

There can be no doubt that the Civil Service bill of Mr. Jenckes is based on a theory which, if not overworked, will be useful in practical operation. But if the measure is to be permanent, it is important that the country shall not be misled as to what has already been done by law in the way of competitive examination. If appointments are now made to office in the executive departments "with no reference at all to competency," as the Post asserts, there is palpable violation of existing laws on the subject. Ever since March, 1853 there has been upon the Federal statute-book a law arranging clerks into four classes, with fixed salaries, according to class, varying in the relation of nine, twelve, fitteen, and eighteen. The act of 1853 also provides: -

"No clerk shall be appointed in either of the four classes until after he has been examined and found qualified by a board, to consist or three examiners, one of them to be the chief of the bureau or office into which he is to be ap-pointed, and the two others to be selected by pointed, and the two others to be selected by the head of the department to which the said clerk will be assigned."

If a law can prevent the appointment of incompetent persons to subordinate positions, why is not the above adapted to the end in view? It certainly contemplates a proving of competency 'under a fair examination." Republican will assume that General Grant will be found wanting as an executor of this law. Take, for example, the Treasury Department. He will appoint a competent Secretary for that branch of the government, who is mindful of the law of 1853, and will be careful in selecting two fit persons to be members of the examining board; and the President himself will look to see that there are competent chiefs of bureaus, one of whom is to be the other man. No man, certainly, can be more interested in having suitable subordinates than the chief who is responsible for his bureau.

It may be said that the existing law fixes no standard of competency, and that thus far the examining boards have made it too low. Granted; but General Grant, with his heads of departments, can easily remedy that diffi-

We think, however, that when we come to require a very high standard of qualifications we shall find existing salaries altogether inadequate. We remember that when the late Mr. Odell was in the Naval Office of the Custom House of this city, he had one or two vacancies to fill. The duties to be performed required accuracy, expertness, and fidelity as an accountant. He set a high standard of fitness at first, but in the end he was compelled to abandon it because banks and mercantile houses would pay twice as much salary as the Government allowed.

It is undoubtedly true that the larger share of Government offices, outside of the incumbents who are confirmed by the Senate, do not require for the due discharge of their functions a very high order of capacity. Integrity is always needed, of course. The range of work of each clerk is, however, extremely limited; and the danger is that, if men are appointed to the inferior places who are really above the work they are required to perform, we shall get a class of very annoying people in office, who will pester [their superiors for promotion and Congress for more pay.

It may be said that removals for political causes are wrong. Here again General Grant is all powerful to make a reform. But, some one replies, how can we expect the new President to retain in office men who have honestly questioned his fitness, and so have every motive to embarrass his measures of reform? How, we answer, will Mr. Jenckes' bill remedy or prevent this state of things? Suppose his bill becomes a law, clerks are appointed under it, and at the next Presidential election these clerks take the same course towards the successful candidate and his party as the present clerks may have done towards General Grant? Do we not at last come down to this, that it is impossible to prevent the removal of Government clerks who will not be content with voting, but must make themselves during elections noisy, brawling, yenomons partisans?

And, besides, we are of opinion that, with proper salaries, all this difficulty about incompetent clerks will disappear if we can have the right men in high places. A good chief of bureau will demand good clerks, and a good head of department will see that he has them. We do not intend to decide here dogmatically upon the merits or demerits of Mr.

Jenckes' bill, but only wish to suggest topics of thought and discussion in reference thereto. The Personnel of the New Parliament.

From the London Saturday Review. Mr. Gladstone has long promised himself and the country that our affairs would be condusted under a "more earnest régime" when But what are the facts? They are, first, that the bands attacked were Cheyennes, Arrachees and Klowar. These three tribes

Earnest people are a recent invention, like "brave minds" and "forthright spirits" and "workers for man." We do not profess en-tirely to understand what is called earnestners, though we dare to say that, when Mr. Gladstone thought of earnestness, he was thinking of Mr. Gladstone. What is certain is that we shall have a Parliament pledged by an overwhelming majority to Gladstonism, and Mr. Gladstone is earnest, terribly earnest -as earnest in pulling on his gloves as in disestablishing a Church. One thing we can understand about Mr. Gladstone's earnestness—it is his gravity. And our new Parliament is likely to be grave enough. Mr. Bernal Osborne's ready wit will be absent from it; Serjeant Gaselee will no longer provoke and poke fun; Mr. Darby Griffith, the irrepressible butt who had the knack of making boredom diverting, has disappeared from the list of senators; and, worst of all, Mr. Roebnok's vitriolio and sarcastic powers of offense have so far offended his constituents that they have preferred dullness to genius, and a delegate to the most independent politician of the day. The House is likely to be dull enough, and, as earnestness takes the form of dullness, Mr. Gladstone has so far been proved to be right. If, as seems likely, Mr. Whalley on the one side and Mr. John Hardy on the other will have to do all the work of making or suggesting jakes, Parliament men may look out for a very dreary time of it under a Premier who is as unsusceptible of wit as a Scotchman. The occasion may perhaps stimulate Mr. Disraeli to recur

to his old vein, and his gracious fooling at

Guildhall seems to show that office has suo-

pressed, but not extinguished, his original

powers in playing the fool, and playing the

prehensive, and therefore a misleading, word. |

fool admirably.

The next Parliament will, therefore, be deficient in wit. And in another aspect the constituencies have gone in for earnestness. Earnestness, according to the cheap newspapers, is an enemy to theory and speculation. An earnest man must be a practical man; above all, he must not have a rag of philosophy about him. Englishmen, they tell us, are an unphilosophical race; metaphysics they can neither abide nor understand; they want things done, and first principles, or any abstract grounds for policy, they resent as an insuit. This Peckham-omnibus view of a senator's qualifications has certainly prevailed. Of all the classes of candidates who have suffered most severely, the doctrinai es have been hit the hardest. Not only is Mr. Stuart Mili rejected, and by the most decisive defeat, at the hands of a constituency which used to be considered a sort of touchstone of political feeling, but the educated and extremely earnest class whose noble function was to justify radicalism by philosophy, history, and the assertion of abstract rights, have only succeeded in returning Mr. Hughes the novelist for a seat which almost preserves the memories of a pocket borough; and Mr. Fawcett, the Cambridge economist. Not only have the doctrinaires failed themselves, but their advocacy has been signally detrimental to their pupils and clients. Dr. Sandwith had the misfortune to be lectured for by Professors and Oxford savans, and Marylebone has preferred not to take the advice or dictation of its guides, philosophers, and triends. Mr. Brodrick, Mr. Roundell, Sir George Young, and Mr. Lushington have not been able to bring into the House an element of thought which no deliberative assembly can afford to dispense with or despise, and which might have stood them in better stead at the hustings had the respective constituencies been less irritated by advice and distation from academic and tutorial quarters.

Something of Mr. Chadwick's defeat at Kilmarnock may be attributed to Mr. Hill's offensive interference with the editors; but the general failure of this class of candidates can only be accounted for by a rooted aversion on the part of the electors to what they consider, with or without justice, dictation on the part of the sophists. The Parliamentary jury has

been struck on the principle known in the courts as knocking the brains out of it. in another direction the electors have shown a remarkable disability to profit by new lights. In one respect the new Parliament is likely to be more dogged and pertinacions against innovations than any of its predecessors. For good or for evil, the new House not only perpetuates, but exaggerate; the character, be they the faults or the excel-lences, of their predecessors. The tradesman and epicier mind has it all its own way, and it seems to come to come to this, that the tradesman who is superseded, and the artisan who rules, are scarcely varieties of the same type of mind, or narrowness. A vast majority of Liberals has been returned, but they are all of the Liberal type; rich tradesmen, hereditary Whigs, and the old members make up most of Mr. Gladstone's supporters. The shirt-sleeves and the working-men candidates have not stood the slight est chance; the fate of Cremer and Odger and Hartwell and Howell and Colonel Dixon and Ernest Jones and, above all, of Mr. Beales, the President of the Reform League, attests, either the proverbial ingratitude of the citi zens to successful demagogues, or a more creditable disinclination on the part of the lectors to entrust the destinies of the empire to those who might have their uses in agitation, in handling mobs and processions, and pulling down park rails, but in no position more creditable or responsible. What is even more curious is, that though the elections have gone so completely against the Irish Church, they have also proved how strong is the conviction or prejudice against fanatical dissent. Merely to be a representative of strong or exceptional views in religion has been generally fatal to a candidate. Unfortunately this degged old-fashioned aversion to innovation in religion has kept out of Parliament such men as Sir John Acton and Lord Edward Howard, representing, as they do, the very best aspect of English Romanism; but, on the other hand, it has also rejected Mr. Miall and Mr. Handel Cossham, with whose views, extreme as they are, it would be insulting to bracket the insolence of Bradlaugh, whose only claims to distinction of any sort were the avowat of an atheism more vulgar, more mocking, and more audacious than that of such extinct monster as Carille and the Devil's Chaplain of five-and thirty years ago. And, to complete the proof of the prevailing antipathy to sectarian re-presentation, it is curious enough that, when the minority clause ejected one Liberal from the city, it was found that the least popular of the old representatives was Baron Rothschild, who for so many years had retained his seat merely because his entrance into a religious profession was by another rite than that of baptism. It was certainly high time to elect a City member on other qualifi-cations than that of being a Jew; but only no: to belong to the Church has stood caudidates in as little stead as only not to be a Christian, and we might almost say that the electors have exhibited equal impartiality against all Jews, Turks, infidels, and heretics. Whoever

has gained, the Liberation Society has lost. Are we wrong in attributing to the same popular, and in some sense bigoted, resistance to being preached at, dictated to, lectured, advised, and sermonized, the distaste with which lawyers generally, and the Tory lawyers in particular, have been visited? The rout is here signal and complete. Sir Roundel Palmer, Sir R. Collier, and Mr. Coleringe survive

to represent the highest walk of legal distinction; and Mr. Gladstone can fill his offices, while it will be some relief to the outgoing Minister that his Attorney and Solicitor will be relieved from the cares of office so soon after they have been obliged to forego the honors of Parliament. The Recorder stands almost alone as the solitary representative of Tory lawyers amid the universal wreak. To belong to a learned profession, and to hold extreme opinions on any point, have been generally considered Parliamentary disqualifications. Regrettable as this is, it is only the Parish Vestry view of things, which the Reform act, we are assured, was to get rid of.

No doubt the new Parliament faithfully

enough reflects the national will. The borough members have been elected to do a

certain and distinct and precise work, which

is simple enough, and does not require much

refinement, much reflection, much, if any, independence. What seems to be the taste of the borough voters is little thought, no philosophy, no geniu, no originality, no "viewiuess," no largeness of conception. Such is the work, and such the instruments. They will do the work in a dull, business-like, commonplace, obedient sort of way. If Mr. Gladstone is to be earnest, the Parliament will be earnest with all the merits and all the drawbacks of earnestness. They used to give nicknames to Parliaments; the new one may perhaps get to be deemed, if it is not called, Parliamentum Prosaicum. Small fear of its being run away with by its own impetuosity. Mr. Disra-li, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Lowe, pretty nearly exhaust all its genius. It may turn out as by rubbing two bits of dry wood together you get sparks, and at last a flame, there may be latent qualities of heat in some of our untried senators which will give us some day a little Parliamentary brilliancy, and possibly some-thing like originality. One thing was needed to be a successful candidate in a large borough constituency, and that one thing was obedience to Mr. Gladstone. For all the rest the more moderate, perhaps the more stupid, a caudidate was, the bet-ter was his chance. Mr. Horsman was the kind of candidate who stood, as he has found, the least chance. The constituencies are not the only thing which has been levelled and brought to a dull flat; the voters seem to have been possessed with something of the spirit of the old Oxford tutor who declared that he would have nothing to do with "those damned intellectuals." The "stupid party" of late years seems likely to be henceforth confronted by a party strong as in everything, so especially in its duliness. Like Pope's women, Parliaments may come to have no character at all; and it is, after all, not so unnatural-though it was not quite expected, and certainly the reverse of it was promisedthat the House of Commons should so faith fully reproduce the parrowness and stiffness. the obstinacy and the unarguing, if solid perhaps stolid, convictions of the untrained English mind. Satiety has produced apathy, and the frenzy of excitement under which the contest was begun has subsided into a general distaste, if not disgust, for promised or threatened revolutions and inpovations.

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Treasurer. CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, Dec. I, 1868. NOTICE.—The Semi-annual Interest on the five and six per cent, loans of the City of Pulla-delphia due January 1, 1869, will be paid on and

after that date. Loans maturing January, 1869, will be paid on presentation, interest ceasing from date of maturity.
The ordinance of Councils approved May 9,

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JOSEPH N. PERSOL,

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