EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURBENT TOPICS-COMPILED BYREY DAY FOR THE EVENING THLEGRAPS.

Georgia and the Amendment-Pretexts for Interference.

From the N. Y. Times The failure of the fifteenth amendment in the Georgia Legislature is a pretext for quarrel of which the advocates of extreme measures are promptly availing themselves. The opportunity is too good to be lost. Here is a proposed constitutional change, moderate and just in its terms, and influtely more acceptable than the provisions of the Georgia constitution; and here is the local Legislature spurning the profered compromise, and obstinately refusing compliance with the behests of the dominant party! The fact is pronounced inomprehensible, except on the supposition that the local majority is composed of disleyal elements. And since they dare show themselves in insolent disregard of the Congressional will, what more natural or proper than that some stern action should be invoked to extirpate lingering rebellion and so reshape the affairs of a reconstructed State that those who hunger and thirst after office and its emoluments may be satisfied? In such a cause the end will justify even objectionable means.

But before undertaking to chastise the people of Georgia for the sins of its Legislature, it is desirable that the precise facts of the case may be correctly known. It may be legitimate and necessary to vindicate the rights of the expelled colored members, and to treat the defeat of the pending amendment as an occasion for exerting, in its full force, Federal authority. But it may not be wise to act precipitately. For it is at least possible that on a careful review of the circumstances attending the recent proceedings at Atlanta, the fate of the amendment may prove to be more the work of mischievous extremists on the Republican side than of stiff-necked Democrats on the side of the opposition.

Of the ill-advised message of Governor Bullock we have already spoken. It would scarcely have been different had the purpose of its author been to provoke the Democrats into the giving of an unfriendly vote. The amendment speaks for itself, and the Governor was not its friend when he attempted to fasten upon it a construction not warranted by any declaration of Congress, and calculated more than aught else to irritate the Democratic members. Our Atlanta correspondent has shown that in this offensive course the Executive was supported by several of his adherents in the House. Instead of allowing the amendment to stand upon its merits as a measure of equity and a symbol of reconciliation and union, the ratification of which should be separated from partisan considerations, the more violent of Governor Bullock's supporters used it to tannt their opponents, to insult them, and to drive them into an attitude of resistance. Such conduct is only intelligible on the theory that Messrs. Bullock, O'Neal, Fitzpatrick & Co. really desired the defeat of the amendment. And, certainly, they took the best possible method of accomplishing their end.

We are not, however, left to conjecture. Records of the divisions prove that the amendment was delayed by the absence of so-called Republicans, and that it was finally defeated by the very men who clamor most loudly for Congressional interference to bring the Legislature into subjection. We begin with the votes in the House: - In the first division the members stood 67 in favor of the amendment, 60 against, with 24 radical Republicans absent, or not voting. The majority included 42 Democrats, and the minority—against ratification-four Republicans. It is true that on this occasion the form of ratification was encumbered with a protest against the construction put upon the amendment by Governor Bullock; but that circumstance was a result of the challenge thrown down in the gubernatorial message, and might have been obviated had the members who absented themselves pursued a less offensive course. A motion to reconsider prevailed on the following day, and, still later, a square division on the merits of the amendment ended in its adoption by the House by a narrow majority. The figures are 64 yeas, 53 nays; eight Republican extremists voting in the minority, and twenty-four being absent or non-voting, twenty-seven Democrats also being in the latter category. Again, in the Senate, the amendment, after having been adopted by a vote of 21 to 16, was reconsidered, and indefinitely postponed by the casting vote of the Republican President, thirteen of the seventeen who voted with him being ultra Republicans, and others of the same complexion dodging the vote. This exhibit we derive from the detailed

divisions published in the local journals, and it is conclusive upon the essential point, that for the virtual defeat of the amendment in the Georgia Legislature, radical Republican Senators are responsible. But for their insincerity and trickery, the amendment would have been ratified. And it was not ratified simply because the partisans who urge upon Congress the policy of fresh interference in the affairs of a reconstructed State chose this plan for putting its Legislature in apparent hostility to the policy of the Government and of the Republican party as expressed by the amendment.

It is clear, therefore, that the effort to make the fate of the amendment in the State a pretext for impugning the thoroughness of its reconstruction, and subjecting it answ to the penalties of a provisional government and the uncertainties of Congressional action, is in the circumstances inexcusable. The State would have at this moment appeared as accepting instead of rejecting the amendment, had the whole body of Republican Senators done their duty. In the House, where Democrats are in the ascendant, it was adopted; by the Senate, where Republicans compose the majority, it was killed by indefinite delay. Will the members of the Reconstruction Committee, and the members of the Senate Judiclary Committee who tavor the Edmunds bill, be good enough to consider this aspect of the

How to Resume.

From the N. Y. Tribuns, To the Editor of The Tribune-Sin-I would like your comments on the following for pre-

venting a crisis:—
Let Congress provide for the issuing of bonds. Let Congress provide for the issuing of bonds, bearing six per cent., and exempt from taxation, in an amount sufficient to raise two hundred millions in gold at home and abroad. Make fifty millions of these bonds payable in gold in one year from their date, and a like amount payable yearly thereafter. Such bonds will doubtless sell at from 95 to 100 cents on the dollar in gold. The common 5 20s are now worth about 85 cents in gold, and the bonds in question would surely be worth 16 cents more, if not 15. Raise two hundred millions with such bonds, and the Government will then hold three hundred millions in gold. Let this gold be loaned to the national banks, and at once resume by law. A dollar greenback will then be worth a gold dollar. Let the national banks be closed in a year or so, and in the mean time the State banks will open and give ussufficient the State banks will open and give ussufficient

Then provide us with a tariff, so as to insure that our exports shall be fifty millions greater han our imports, and all will be well.

Truly yours, Subscriber,

debtors, who, if not the largest, are the most zealous and clamorous portion of the community. If there were a general desire to resume, it would be effected at once.

Piling up gold anywhere is the certain way to prevent and postpone resumption. What is needed is that gold shall cease to be needed, or an object of eager desire. If we were Secretary of the Treasury and auxious to resume, we should first call in the gold certificates and make those who want gold hold it for themselves; next, we would pay out nearly all the gold remaining in the Treasury, so as to make it a drug in the market. We should wish, in doing this, to buy up and cancel forty or fifty millions of Government bonds, so as to make them scarcer in the hands of bankers and dealers.

Next, we should put on the market an American consol or long bond, payable principal and interest in coin, and untaxable, at the lowest rate of interest at which it could be floated. Having this in good demand, at par or over, we should simply resume-that is, offer any one who was not satisfied with greenbacks the gold for them-obtaining the gold by selling consols at the market rate. We are confident that not a tenth of the greenbacks would be presented for redemption. They would be withheld exactly as the gold certificates now are-because they are equal in value to gold and more convenient to the holders.

In this way, we would reach resumption surely, speedily, and without a shock. There is no difficulty and no mystery in the pre-The only serious obstacle is the mises. popular preference of a false to a true standard of value. But of all wild delusions ever propagated, that which contemplates resumption through the heaping up of gold in the Treasury is the wildest and saddest.—Ed.

The New Administration-What Are Its Prospects?

From the N. Y. Herald. On the 4th of March the people made up their political balance-sheet. They analyzed it, and found in it four years of war invested for the purpose of preserving our territory intact and for the avoidance of all those ills incident to petty nationalities, boundary lines, and their attendant evils of troops, of cus-toms duties, and of restrictions to free communication. They poured out their treasure like water, and there was not a dollar spent but bore its drop of blood. In common with us, the people of the South were fighting to rid the country of certain evils which had grown up in our national system, and could only be eradicated by a which bloody war. It required war to cleanse our territory, and nothing but war would open the eyes of our people, North and South, to that which, in our Constitution and in our political rule, had been a mockery to our republicanism, a curse to our hopes of ever becoming homogeneous, and a barrier to our true progress. In the struggle both sides showed certain elements which are at the foundation of all national vigor-courage, endurance, perseverance, and patriotism. It only required the clearing of the dross from around these to throw them to the front in all their compactness and beauty, and build around them with our magnificent elements of progress the mightiest nationality the world has seen. Four years of desperate conflict cleared the arena and left the nation, North and South, master of its foes.

Now come four years, from 1865 to 1869, of gathering again in hand the elements of national prosperity. Congress undertake what they call reconstruction, but it is the reconstruction of a section, not the reconstruction | Johnstons, Jacksons, Longstreets, and Beaureof the nation. The worn-out questions decided by the sabre strokes of both sides are brought to the front by the débris of both political factions, and the soldiers who faced the bullets, the people who poured out their treasure, are treated to a quarrel between a hotheaded President on one side and the warlashed radical foam of the Senate on the other. In the struggle every material interest of the country is neglected; commerce languishes, manufactories lie dormant, trade rests on uncertain foundations, the revenues remain uncollected, and the brains of the country appear to feel that but one source of wealth is left open, and that source the public Treasury. While the execurive and legislative departments quarrel and, snake-like, are blinded by their own venom, the country, North and South, resting on its own broad resources of head and heart, patiently waits for the signal when all the States shall again take up their national march. For four years the nation halts to ascertain whether the section which has been knocked off its feet shall be dragged along, or whether, in the same uniform that the other States wear, it shall be allowed to march with us, help itself, and thus relieve all. Four years pass, and the problem, tangled by too much law, descends in a still worse condition

to the electors of 1868. The nation, sick at heart with what it saw in this retrospective examination, elected General Grant to replace the "my policy" man of one idea. We, the people, thought, with this election, that the Senate would then restore to the Executive the power which it had usurped. No such result has followed. The Tenure-of-Office act, instead of being revoked, is turned into an instrument of insult, not only to the executive branch of the Government, but to the whole people of the country, who by their votes revoked the obnoxious act when they elected President Grant to fulfil the duties imposed upon him by the Constitution. The people knew that none of the minor functions of the Government could operate in harmony while the ruling force itself was working badiy.

Since the 4th of March the country has, therefore, watched with great anxiety the attempt at Washington to balance the governmental tripod. The Executive selected a harmonious Cabinet of marked talent and vigorous brain. The Senate, drunk with power, could not help testing its strength by breaking up the Cabinet in the unearthing of the obsolete law of 1789. They were testing the mettle of the man they had to deal with. He, anxious to conciliate, and seeing that harmony within was the only hope of harmony without, yielded in the tilt, and allowed the Senate to substitute Mr. Boutwell for Mr. Stewart in the Treasury Department. Mr. Boutwell may be a man of genius, but he has not yet shown it; and it is very doubtful if he is able to handle the vast machinery now under his control with the same ability which we have good evidence would have marked the administra-

tion of the office by Mr. Stewart. Now the House of Representatives has reected the delusive amendment which the Senate ironically throws to the people. The Tenure-of-Office act remains, in all the glory of its despotism, an insult to that idea with which the nation tickles its vanity-a republican form of government. At this point the people naturally turn to the man whom they have placed in the chair to correct govern-mental evils. The House of Representatives is with him, the nation, outside of the Senate chamber, is with him; North and South are with him. He has a political army at his back large enough to get him out of this Wilderness

The foregoing is, in our view, suicidal non-sense. The present obstacle to resumption is the popular will—that is, the repugnance of may wrest the usurped power from the Sanata. Should be fail to avail himself of this opportunity, and give the Senate more vantage ground, they will conquer, and the next four years will give us political chauges such as we have shown ourselves powerless to resist.

President Grant's "Common Senso."

From the N. Y. World. When Democrats made objection to General Grant, in the Presidential canvass, that he lacked the training and experience of a statesman, there was no possibility of controverting the fact; but it was urged, in offset, that he was a man of such robust common sense as would atone for the want of other qualifications. This reply was ridiculous, even if the superior common sense had not been a friendly exaggeration. Common sense is, indeed, indispensable in every important employment, but it cannot stand as a substitute for skill and knowledge. Common sense does not qualify a black-mith to navigate a ship, nor a sailor to shoe a horse; it does not enable a physician to manage a lawsuit, nor a lawyer o prescribe for diseases. As Archbishop Whately said, with his wonted aptness:-"The generality have a strong predilection in favor of common sense, except in those points in which they, respectively, possess a system of rules. A sailor will perhaps despise the pretensions of medical men, and prefer treating a disease by common sense, but he would ridicule the proposal of navigating a ship by common sense, without regard to the maxims of nautical art. A physician, again, will perhaps contemn systems of political economy, of logic or metaphysics, and insist on the superior wisdom of trusting to common sense in such matters: but he would never approve of the system of trusting to common sense in the treatment of diseases. Neither, again, would the architect recommend a reliance on common sense alone in building, nor the musician in music, to the neglect of those systems of rules which, in their respective arts, have been deduced from scientific reasoning, aided by experience. And the induction might be extended to every department of practice. Since, therefore, each gives the preference to unassisted common sense only in those cases where he has nothing else to trust to, and invariably resorts to the rules of art wherever he possesses the knowledge of them, it is plain that mankind universally bear their testimony, though unconsciously and often unwillingly, to the preference of systematic knowledge to conjectural judgments." In General Grant's own profession of a sol-

dier-much less complicated and various than that of a statesman-he would scout the pretensions of mere common sense with as thorough a contempt as Democrats feel for his qualifications for his present office. When he appointed Sherman General, Sheridan Lieutenant General, and Schofield to the vacant Major Generalship, he was dealing with a subject which he understood, and selected those officers for their established professional eminence. He adopted a different rule in choosing a Cabinet, because in that matter he was too great a novice to understand what he needed. The analogy of his own profession ought to have suggested to him the indispensable impertance of training and experience, if he had had any considerable share of the common sense which his panegyrists used to ascribe to him. The experience of our civil war is rich in instruction respecting the insufficiency of mere common sense. The average common sense of civilians is, of course, equal to that of men trained in military schools; but although the armies on both sides were full of civilian generals, none of these acquired the reputation of a very able commander. The Lees, gards, on the Rebel side, as well as the Grants, Shermans, Sheridans, Meades, and Hancocks, on the Union side, were soldiers who had had the advantage of a West Point training, and most of them of service in the Mexican war; while the Rebel Wises and Cobbs, like our Fremonts, Bankses, and Butlers, though men of capacity and common sense, made a poer figure as generals. The war exploded the old prejudice against West Point, and has covered

the ignorant admiration of common-sense soldiership with derision. General Grant bids fair to make common-sense statesmanship an object of equal scorn. No political general appeared to so little advantage in the war as President Grant does, thus far, at the head of the government. To say nothing of the nondescript Cabinet, which went to pieces as soon as it was launched, he has split the party that elected him into wrangling factions, who have kept the public attention absorbed by their quarrelling and caucusing ever since the inauguration. General Grant's famous "let us have peace," must be interpreted, like dreams, by their contraries. Instead of peace, he brings per-petual hot water, and his health is already breaking down under his disappointment and chagrin. The Republicans of both houses are divided into Grant men and anti-Grant men and in both the anti-Grant Republicans are a majority. In the Senate they are so large a majority that the Democrats are powerless to assist him, and they would have swept him under in the House if the Democrats had not voted with his friends. He has encountered this mortifying reverse with every advantage on his side. If there is an period in the administration of a President when he can hope to be strong and popular, it is at the beginning, when he has not yet expended the chief source of his influence by the bestowal of his patronage. With such a President as Grant the patronage is not only the chief source, but the only source of his it fluence. The influence of a party leader-the influence of wide party connections, of original and sagacious views, of commanding eloquence, of the authorship of great measures, of power to act upon and electrify the public mind-does not belong to General Graut. Mr. Clay out of office, Mr. Douglas out of office, and, in the palmy days of his ascendancy, even Mr. Seward out of office, would have been a power in the politics of the country. They had each an enthusiastic body of admirers who looked to them as guides, and accepted their views on all great public questions. But General Grant out of office would be the merest nobody. His opinions could not even enlist public curiosity. And even his official influence is of the most vulgar description, the mere influence of patron-It reminds one of the sarcastic text which Paley proposed for a sermen on the occasion of the great ado made over Pitt when he visited Cambridge University:-"I perceive that there is a lad among you who hath five loaves and two fishes." To a statesman of abilities, the Presidency is a source of great influence quite apart from its patronage, by putting him in a position where he easily and surely commands universal attention. I a President has sagacious views to put forth, they never fail to be considered by every class of his countrymen. The chief obstacle to the propagation of sound opinion-inability to get attention to them-does not exist in his case;

does not enable him to bend.

As the sole prop of President Grant's in-finence is the Federal patronage, he will be less and less considered as he progressively parts from this source of his power by the bestowal of the offices. All the office-seekers are now hopeful; as nine-tenths of them must ultimately be disappointed, it is a safe calculation that Grant has ten friends now for every one that he will retain after the distribution of the loaves and fishes. If, then, he encounters nothing but mortification and discomfiture now, what can he expect when he has no longer anything to bestow? Had it not been for the pressure of expectant officeseekers, his friends in Congress could not have maintained the present struggle for a week; and even with the aid of this ravenous army, he will be unable to get the Tenureof-Office act repealed. He has the transient advantage of this powerful alliance: the equally transient advantage of a factitious popularity created by the wholesale laudations of the Republican press during the Presidential canvass. Those praises, having accomplished their object, were waxing fainter and feebler through the winter, and their lingering echoes will quite die away. His military career will soon cease to be considered; and it is difficult to see what source of influence is to remain to him by the time Congress reassembles next winter. His own party are beginning to suspect that even his vaunted common sense is spurious. Cau a man be very bountifully endowed with that useful quality who has thus squandered his ascendancy? who has turned a majority of his

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W. WASHINGTON, D. C.,
W. D. CUTLER. Esq:—
Please find below a communication from the Examiner, in
the matter of interference between Rand, Lewis, and Guider, for manufacture from Codillah, Very respectfully.

ELISHA FOOTE
Commissioner of Patents. Commissioner of Patents.

Examiner's Room:—In the matter above referred to, priority of invention IS AWARDED TO CUT-LER, and the applications of Rand and Lewis are re-jected. B. S. HENORICK, Examiner. jectid.

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