

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals Upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

SOME WORDS WITH DR. CHAPIN.

The Reverend Dr. Chapin is one of the best known, in the sense of being most widely known, of our spiritual pastors and masters.

Doctor Chapin had the distinction of being one of two clergymen, and we believe the one professionally Christian clergyman, who went to the reception given to Daniel E. Sickles.

By Doctor Chapin, in his private character, chooses to consort with Sickles, in his private character, which we could make no objection to make public with such precautions of secrecy as would save the shocking of the public sense of decency.

That a layman, detached by political interest, should be willing to condone private business in consideration of political parity, is a lamentable, but still, in some ways, an accountable thing.

But although such a layman must be influenced either by sympathy with the object of his "respect, esteem, and friendship," or by fear of him, and must be, therefore, either a sinner or a coward, his offense is venial.

Doctor Chapin, we believe, has, to his own satisfaction, abolished hell. His substitute for it is the penalty which he conceives a sinner pays in this life for his sins.

The fact that this new programme is laid before the Legislature and the empire by M. Rouher, and that no changes have yet taken place in the French Cabinet, pretty plainly indicates that the Minister of State, at least, by no means regards its adoption as a foregone conclusion.

The presentation of the programme, however, and the discussions to which it must lead, both in the Legislature and in the press, will undoubtedly evoke the true political feelings and wishes of the French people as they have not for years been evoked.

Not long ago, when, upon the reduction and reorganization of the army, new assignments were made in commands, the Democratic papers raised a great outcry that General Hancock had been "exiled" by the new administration; and, accordingly, we were all called upon to indulge our indignation against a "petty malignity," as it was called, which, fearing future rivalry, had "induced President Grant to banish his subordinate to a distant region, far from the natural reach of political preferment."

Now the question arises, have these negro equality doctrines, these radical changes from the Democratic creed of negro inferiority and subordination, been honestly accepted by the Virginia Democrats, in their support of the Walker ticket and the moderate Republican faction in this Virginia election?

Now having, by this masterly flank movement, secured the Governor and the Legislature, with two-thirds of the State delegation to the lower house of Congress, the next step in the programme became exceedingly important and somewhat doubtful.

Virginia lend the way, and the Southern Democratic party, which on the negro question was the Southern Rebellion, will follow Virginia in all the other Southern States; and then the Northern Democracy, to recover the Southern balance of power, will be compelled to go the same way.

We have something of a leaning in this direction in the nomination of General Rosecrans as the Democratic candidate for Governor of Ohio, although the Ohio Democracy swear they will never consent to this fifteenth negro amendment, never.

The Emperor Napoleon's promised reforms have come in the shape of a message which is itself a reform, yet which may very well defeat altogether the reforms it proposes.

But our enigma is only in appearance an enigma. Instead of establishing by an imperial decree a new order of things in the relations between the ministry of the French crown and the representatives of the French people, the Emperor has thrown upon the latter the responsibility of establishing that new order themselves.

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not to speak of the stepping-stone to the next Presidency! The St. Paul Pioneer says that, from conversations with members of the General's staff, it has been led to believe that he will decline the proposed nomination if offered.

LORDS AND COMMONS—THE THREATENED CONFLICT.

Neither the Gladstone Cabinet nor the House of Commons has lost any time in making a firm stand against the attempt of the Lords to override the reiterated verdict of the House of Commons with regard to the disendowment of the Irish Church.

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politics or philosophy why negroes more than whites should all belong to one party. Men's political affinities arise from causes which lie deeper than the color of their skins.

Other things being equal, then, it would be quite unnatural and contrary to precedent for the entire mass of negroes recently admitted to the ballot-box in the South, and that comparatively insignificant number who will soon have access to it in the North under the operation of the fifteenth amendment, to join the Republican party.

But negroes are men; and it depends quite as much upon the Democratic party as upon the enfranchised negroes themselves whether the former shall hereafter and throughout the entire Union win to their standard so much of the colored vote as to enable the Democracy and their white allies to carry all the Southern States in the great contests before them as triumphantly as they have just carried Virginia, and thereby overthrow the Republican ascendancy in 1872.

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