SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

THE NEW SOUTH.

From the N. Y. Times. The recent exposition of textile fabrics at Cincinnati revealed an unexpected development of manufacturing industry throughout the West and South. Of its growth in the West, in forms as multifarious as the wants of the community, the country generally has not been uninformed. The occasion of surprise is the degree of excellence to which the production of textile fabrics has been carried. and the amount of capital invested in manufacturing enterprises in a section which, according to vulgar belief, suffers from a chronic scarcity of money. The wonder would be increased if an opportunity were afforded for the display of Western manufacturing industry as a whole. Its diversity and extent would show that a vast and ever-growing market is becoming less and less dependent upon East-

ern sources of supply.

The progress of the South in the same direction is more remarkable because effected under most disadvantageous circumstances. It is but just emerging from a condition which has been marked by many difficulties and almost unparalleled depression. The war left the people almost universally poor; their poverty in many districts reached the verge of destitution. Their labor system was disorganized, their land devastated, their available property destroyed. It is creditable to them that, amidst strong political excitement, and in the presence of many causes of discouragement, they have addressed themselves with rare energy and perseverance to the reconstruction of their hattered fortunes. Applying themselves to hard work, they have won more than bread; they have realized an independence to which they were previously strangers, and are manifesting an enterprise which assures to them a prosperous future. They are, as they never were before the war, out of debt. They are alive to the importance of turning to account the varied resources which make their region, naturally, the richest in the world. And for the first time in their history they propose systematically to supplement the culture of cotton with its conversion into manufactured

The immediate result was seen at Cincinnati. The association under whose auspices the exposition in that city was conducted, in its reported resolutions, spoke of "the unexpected and varied excellence of the goods sent from the South." A tabular statement published in the same connection shows that Georgia already has 21 cotton mills and North Carolina 17; Virginia and Tennessee have each 10; and Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi, Texas, and Arkansas all have more The total is considerable. And it is only the beginning of a movement the growth of which will be coextensive with the wealth acquired from the crops. Before the war, the planters' surplus was invested in slaves. Now, it finds its way into manufactures, which promise henceforward to be the popular form of investment. The Southern people propose to be their own manufacturers. Anot unreasonable despondency has been succeeded by an equally reasonable confidence, and they are on the road to real independence.

The trading politicians by whom the South is afflicted are no longer able to repress its hopeful, buoyant spirit. It talks cheerfully, and through channels not favorable to rosecolored views. Even South Carolina, on which the few remaining fire-eaters of the press lavish their sympathies, protests that the darkest days are over. "It is not true," the Charleston News declares, "that there is any prospect that the lower sections of the State will be abandoned to the negroes.

"Throughout the State the people are confident and heerful. We have more hard money than we had in 1860, and, in every sense of the word, South Caro-lina has made as much progress since 1865 as has been made by any one of her sister States."

The New Orleans Picayune, glancing over the South generally, is yet more emphatic:-"Men everywhere throughout the South are looking hopefully into the future, and see in the teeming fields and prospective harvests salvation from the ominous clouds that have hung above them since the demon of war swept from them all save their

The philosophy of the gratifying change is expounded with unwonted candor by the Mobile Register—a journal which was rash enough the other day to threaten a new war unless Democrats be allowed to control the elections. "The excitement of two trying elections," it now confesses, "has been passed through: the farmers have become settled, and the freedmen are, as a very general thing, working pretty steadily." Again, we are informed by the same authority that "the planter is now better paid for his crops and is more independent of his factor than ever before." These are important facts. Now for the .philosophy:-

for the philosophy:

"The old system of advance—leaving in many cases the crop in debt to the factor, not the factor to the crop—is a thing of the past. The planter now not only feels, but uses, his independence, and the money received comes into his own hands for his own disposition. Moreover, the great expenditure, against his running account, is no longer made for lengthened trips to Northern watering-places, and for acquisition of numberiess articles of luxury. The money received for the ootton crop to-day stays at home; and the planter, taught wisdom by the bitter lessons of the last four years, can subsist himself and family on necessaries only. In most cases, too, these actual wants are supplied at home, and too, these actual wants are supplied at home, and the vast plantation system that called for importa-tion of every pound of bacon and every bushel of grain has been superseded by a universal farm thriff that has made the man of few acres not only self-supporting and independent, but practically richer than he of many used to be,"

This is encouraging testimony because it is the testimony of men bitterly hostile to the order of things in which the regeneration of the South had its birth.

There is a new South, then, and the mischief makers are not its masters. It is a South which has free labor for its cornerstone, and which rests its hopes, its influence and prosperity upon thrift, enterprise and organized industry. And it is a South which is destined to play a conspicuous part in the future commercial arrangements of the Con-

FRENCH REFORM.

From the N. Y. Tribune. The imperial plan of reform, as given by the French press, does not materially vary from our telegrams. The Emperor and his Corps may [initiate laws-a legislative right hitherto devoured by the Government His ministers may be legislators, and in any case have parliamentary hearing, and though, as hitherto, impeachable only by the Senate, are responsible. These provisions would tend to make the French administration as representative as that of Great Britain, were it not for a suspicion of the Emperor's stipulation that his ministers depend only from himself. Senatorial sittings are to be made public, but a request from five members may establish secrecy, as was formerly the case with the Legislative body, so that the Senate will still be in effect an imperial cabinet, with the in the hands of Napo-

eases may, by resolve, oppose the promulgation of a law. Every Senator and legislator may address interpellations, or questions, to the Government, whereas, by the present rule, an interpellation must be signed by five memwho consigns it to the committees, where, if endorsed by two Senatorial or four Legislative Committees, the question may be placed before the Senate-a tortuous and odious process, without a single redeeming feature. Orders of the day may be adopted in future, subject to being returned by the Government. Amendments may be moved and submitted to committee, without intervention of Council of State, and after being reported to and from Government, may be passed upon finally by the Legislature. Of all concessions of the empire, this is perhaps the most liberal, since it

assimilates the legislative process of France to that of the United States, saving that amendments in the French body are made liable to delay and defeat by passing through Government hands. The provision for considering the budget in detail is another appreciable reform, and one of the most important of the list provides that future modifications of customs or postal tariffs, by means of international treaty, can be made obligatory only by virtue of a law passel to that effect. This imperial renunciation of enforcing, without legislative sanction, changes in the tariff, condemns the Emperor's revenue policy in the last ten years, and is parently a good blow at French and English free trade. Here ends the imperial plan of reform. We see it reported, however, that the positions of Secretary-General and Director-General of the Ministries, General of the Army, and Vice-Admiral of the Navy, President of the Court of Appeal, Procurator-General, and member of the Court of Cassation, will be made consistent with a seat in the Chamber. It has been proposed, likewise, that Senators shall be disabled from holding other offices in the State besides their legislative posts, but we have little hope that such will prove the case. The rumor of an imperial disposition to increase the membership of the Senate is significant only of a desire to add to the number of the manufactured friends and champions of the empire. Already the Senate has rejected the proposition

that Senators shall be chosen by the Councils-

General in faint imitation of our Senatorial

elections by State Legislatures. An amend-

ment to the imperial plan, providing for con-

ference committees between the Senate and

Corps, has been wisely introduced, and will

in all probability pass. Thus stands French reform in the present year of grace. Impelled to all the concessions he has made by the regenerative wave of French opinion surging up from the results of the late elections, we can only credit the Emperor with the mathematical merit of having calculated shrewdly the amount of carpenter-work which will save his throne for the time being. M. Thiers declares that personal government is at an end, and so it ap-M. Glais-Bizoin fears that the Emperor will artfully take back the liberties he has granted. M. Favre desires to believe that France, which has no sovereign but liberty, can march to reform without revolution, M. Rouher is of opinion that the empire is sufficiently popular to go hand in hand with liberty. MM. Rochefort and Raspail believe in the revolutionary spirit, and bide the revolutionary occasion. M. Louis Napoleon Bonaparte has, if we heard him aright, made his last tangible concession, but we doubt if the Emperor of a growing country can put an unalterable limit to the French capacity for interpellation or the imperial convenience of response. Altogether the auguries are not extremely hostile to his Majesty, and France may go into training again for another crisis.

A PERAMBULATING CAPITAL. From the N. Y. Sun.

The citizens of St. Louis desire the removal of the national capital from Washington to the Mississippi valley. They held a meeting to consider the question on the 10th of this menth, and resolutions were passed in favor of calling a convention composed of delegates from all the States, to consider the whole subject, and secure if possible the desired removal. A committee was appointed with authority to arrange for the holding of the convention contemplated in the resolutions. The meeting was enthusiastic, and was addressed by the most prominent citizens of St. Louis. There can be no doubt that the object in view is to make St. Louis the national capital, although this was not expressly

avowed in the resolutions. This proposal to move the capital seems to us unnecessary and untimely. There are few countries in the world in which the capital occupies a central geographical position. Therefore it cannot be said that precedents are against the situation of Washington. It is true that in Europe the capitals of States are usually the largest and most important cities; but, following the analogy, the capital of the United States should be, not a city in the Mississippi Valley, but the city of New York, the metropolis of the country to-day, and destined to remain so as long as our his

tory shall endure. The Government has spent enormous sums of money at Washington, which have been only wasted if the capital is to be removed. Similar buildings would have to be erected elsewhere, at an expense far exceeding that of those at Washington; for none which are suitable for the purposes of the Government exist in any other city in the Union.

What advantage can be found in a change ! Washington is free from very many of the corrupt political influences which almost inevitably make themselves felt in a great city. There is corruption there, it is true, but only that which surrounds the National Government. The political wickedness of a great

city is not added to this. The increased facility and rapidity of travel consequent upon the increase in the number of railroads and other means of communication throughout the land, render it of very little importance that the national capital should be situated at the geographical centre. The argument to the contrary loses all its force when we remember that the journey from San Francisco to New York occupies but seven days.

If the capital of the United States is ever to be removed from Washington, it should not be now. The country is in a condition of perpetual progression, which renders it impossible to foresee its future wants. A course of action which may seem best now would be likely to seem very different when the great Western country is densely populated.

We favor every kind of change which seems likely to prove beneficial; but this proposal with reference to the national capital does not

PENDLETON'S PROSPECTS. From the N. Y. World.

Republican papers which felicitate them-selves upon the probable defeat of Mr. Pendleton, on account of supposed differences

poleon. The Senate may amend laws, and I among the Democrats of Ohio with regard to send them back to the Corps, and in all their candidate's financial policy and other issues, are over-hasty in jumping at conclusions. These papers, by the by, are mainly at the East; the Western papers are better informed, and the Cincinnati Commercial, the shrewdest and ablest Republican journal at the West-and it has few, if any, superiors in any section-confesses that Mr. Pendleton is a very strong candidate, and that it will be difficult to defeat him.

This view of the matter is just, for the folowing reasons:-Mr. Pendleton has a parsonal prestige which attaches to no other candidate whom the Democrats in that State could have nominated. No man at the West has more or warmer personal friends. This large personal following will make the caupaign an interesting and exciting one, for many prominent men in Ohio will feel and take a strong and immediate interest in the success of their candidate. In the next place, Mr. Pendleton is a confessed candidate for the Presidency; and this fact, which really introduces a Presidential issue in this State canvass, will bring out all the energy, vigor, and hearty good-will of the whole Deinocratic party, as well as of Mr. Pendleton's immediate friends. It is a fact which will fuse the differences-if there are any in the party in Ohio—into a solid and substantial settlement. A Presidential issue in a State election always brings out the whole strength of the party; and, as Mr. Pendleton's success in this election will put him in the very front rank of candidates before the next Democratic Convention to nominate a successor to Mr. Grant, the Ohio Democrats, with this end in view, will work with unusual will.

On the other hand, Mr. Hayes, the Republican candidate, has nothing beyond his Re publicanism to commend him to his party. He has no personal popularity to speak of, He has displayed no executive ability. He is running upon the smallest amount of political capital. The Republicans in Ohio, as in other States, are suffering from the reaction of the late Presidential election. They are disgusted with Grant, and they may let the election go by default for the sake of rebuking their President. The same motive, too, which will prompt the Democrats to put forth their strongest efforts-to wit: the prominence which Mr. Pendleton's success will give him in the next Democratic Presidential Convention - will unquestionably influence many Republicans who would like to see Mr. Pendleton foremost among the candidates, in the hope of creating dissensions in that same convention. They will consider this a bit of strategy worth sacrificing Hayes for.

All these things considered, the probabilities highly favor the election of Mr. Pendleton, and every Democrat in the country will rejoice in his success.

SICKLES.

From the N. Y. World. "We take the liberty of doubting the statement that Senator Summer has taken pains to write a let-ter to a rriend of General Sickles, guaranteeing the confirmation of that person as Minister to Spain, when the matter should come before the Senate, Mr. Summer is not in the habit of doing such things, and he ought to know the true character of Sickles too well even to vote for his confirmation, much more to undertake to carry it through the Senate. It was bad enough in General Grant to nominate him; but it will be far worse to have the Senate confirm him. Let him come home and go to some place where his nast reputation will be less in the way, and his talents, which are not small, may be more useful."—Springfeld Republican. We have little hope for the virtue of the

Radical Senate. If it rejects Sickles it will take advantage of the Kilpatrick law, and put that rejection upon a technicality which should be grounded on the country's honor. We have never denied the services of Sick les to his party, nor objected to their requital in some decent manner. Few men have done the Radical party more effectual service than he. When dirty work was to be done, he has performed his allotted task with congenial facility. Certainly, the Radical party is under the most weighty obligations to him, but it was not necessary that those obligations should be requited, by General Grant, with a foreign mission which imposes his presence upon the refined and pure society of a foreign capital, and inflicts an insult upon every

society which he is assigned to represent. It is an insult to the army and a degradation of its esprit de corps that he should be in it; but is there no office of profit, but not of honor, to which he can be assigned, where his unquestioned talents may have play, where his opportunities for stealing would be small, and where his life might be obscure and his past forgotten? or will the pious Dodge and the honest Greeley insist upon eminence for this object of their "friendship, respect, and

honest man and every virtuous woman in the

THE KEYSTONE STATE AND THE QUEEN OF THE ANTILLES.

From the N. Y. Herald. Philadelphia lawyers, with the United States authorities and naval officers serving in and off that city, have been in the enjoy ment of a sensation. It relates to Cuba: and filibusters, woodpiles, revolvers, with shotted guns, and "heaving to" at sea make up the exciting causes and consequences. teamer Hornet left the port of Philadelphia ast Saturday. It was immediately rumored that she was bound for Cuba, having a band of terrible fellows on board. As very few steamers leave the port of Philadelphia, the novelty of the occasion of her sailing may have given rise to the report. A public fuss ensned, United States Marshal Gregory, United States army captain, with a United States naval officer, participating. They consulted about the neutrality laws, and then started a United States steamer in pursuit the army officer having, it is to be presumed given advice as to the treatment of any fili bustering recruit of the "horse marine" corps who should be found on board. The commander of the United States vessel, as we are told, overhauled the Hornet, "let ily" at her with a blank cartridge, and then stood on with a "shotted gun," just as in the fine old days of the war. The Hornet "came to." She was boarded, and the articles, such as we have enumerated above, were found. Twentyfive men were also seized. The Hornet has been turned over by the United States Marshal and laid under the guns of the Government steamer. It is gallant work and good for Philadelphia, as the event will not startle the Quaker population overmuch. President Grant's men are "around.

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