

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

WHICH PARTY CAN THE PEOPLE TRUST?

From the N. Y. Times.

The able writer whose political articles in Harper's Weekly have long rendered that journal a power in the land, describes in a few words the present position of the Republican party and the administration. The people, he says, have "perfect faith in the honesty of the administration," they listen attentively to criticisms upon it, but they will "insist that Republican criticisms of our own party shall be friendly, and not helpful to the common enemy; for it is only by friendly criticism that the party policy is made truly wise."

The principle here laid down is one to which very few will object. It places at once in their proper aspect those "criticisms" upon the administration which are evidently based upon mere malice and personal hostility towards the President. The abusive attacks made by some of the President's enemies probably do him more good than harm, for in many cases their motive is well understood, and in all cases they tend to disgust people, and to produce a reaction in the President's favor. If the administration will place itself in advance of the nation, and identify itself with those measures which are clearly seen to be necessary, wild scurrility will be powerless to injure it. As for those criticisms which are founded upon a supposed knowledge of the events, or the faculty of shifting with every change of the wind, no intelligent person ever paid the least attention to them. In one quarter President Grant is constantly advised to be like Jackson, and swear "by the Eternal" to put down opposition. Yet, whenever he shows any signs of independence, this same journal comes out and tells him that he is a failure, and pathetically casts him off. Perhaps it might be deemed offensive to call this kind of criticism imbecile, and it answers every purpose to describe it as compounded of an equal mixture of foolishness and dishonesty.

But, whatever differences of opinion may exist now or at any future time about the administration, we hope there can be none in the minds of the people with regard to the necessity of keeping the Republican party in power. The country has as much need of that now as ever it had. It is still a party which aims at the attainment of lofty ends, and which is better capable than any other party of sustaining the honor and advancing the prosperity of the country. We are not yet quite clear of the stormy waters raised by the Rebellion, and it would be dangerous to discard the organization which alone prevented the collapse of the United States a few years ago. People who think that the South has forgiven and forgotten its defeats have conjured up for themselves a fool's paradise. The ugly fact is before us that communities which have staked everything on a war and lost, seldom forget what they regard as their wrongs. No man supposes that France will abide by one decision in the struggle which she provoked. The Southern press constantly expresses the hope that the day will come when the "lost cause" will triumph. The belief of nine-tenths of the people is that their children will never rest satisfied until an attempt has been made to retrieve the fortunes of the Confederacy. These sentiments may gradually die out, but if the Democracy is restored to power, they will be far more likely to acquire a sudden strength which will alarm all classes of the people, and convince them when too late that permanent security was to be obtained under Republican rule alone. The happiest day which all disaffected spirits at the South have seen for some years would be that on which a Democratic President was sent to Washington. The murmurs which we hear now would instantly be exchanged for something much more formidable, and the Democrats as a party would be untrue to their history if they did not stand by the South at such a crisis rather than by the North.

clothing, temporary board, and tools, and finding employment for them." Wise and necessary as the movement is, it comes so late in the day, and is so meagre an effort to supply an immeasurable need, that it strikes us as almost ludicrous. Look for a moment at the tables of crime in this country. With the formation of each State comes the establishment of a gigantic penitentiary—massive structures of stone, or in some cases of marble, upon whose construction as much cost is expended as on some of the royal palaces of Europe—an outlay, by the way, which, while it conduces to the vanity of the State, adds not one whit to the comfort of the inmates. The outer wall alone of the prison applying for this bill cost over half a million of dollars. The average primary cost of accommodation for each inmate of the State prisons is over \$1000, which does not include their after maintenance. Beside these vast central organizations, there are the jails in each county of each State, where hundreds of men and women are withdrawn from society, kept in idleness, and maintained at the expense of the State, on account of real or alleged crime. Now, what is the object of this perpetual subtraction of a great fraction of the population from the rest, by which they are kept in an abnormal position at the cost of an enormous outlay to innocent people? The answer of course is, "Their reform, and the purifying of society." Punishment, or the fear of it, never made a bad man a better one; hence, in most of the State prisons a nominal effort is made by religious instruction, or the teaching of trades, to fit the poor wretches whom hereditary poverty, or viciousness, or some mischance in life, has made a felon, to stand upright again on his release, an honest man among his fellows. We say a nominal effort, because in too many cases the necessity of making the prisons self-supporting converts the convicts into draught horses, out of whom a certain amount of work is forced, while the question of their reformation is left altogether in the lurch. Especially is this the case where, as in Illinois and Kentucky, the prisoner, his food, clothing, and the product of his labor are handed over by the State for a bonus to a lessee, who proceeds to grind the convict's bones to make his own bread, and ordinarily grinds them to some purpose.

In the best-managed penitentiaries known, where the convict, during his detention, is furnished with a trade, religious instruction, healthful and improving reading, what is done on his release to find him work and a place again in society? Absolutely nothing. Incredible as it may seem, Massachusetts is the only State which has established an agency for taking charge of discharged convicts. In only three other States—Pennsylvania, New York, and California—is such aid systematically given by any outside body. The Prison Association—one of the noblest aids to humanity which Christianity ever inspired—takes charge in these States of the prisoner before his release, ascertains his necessities, the state of his clothing, his capabilities, etc., finds him work, or sends him home to his friends. In this State the association has provided permanent places for 3677 liberated prisoners, and has kept a helpful, watchful eye over their future career; only three per cent. of this number are reported as having relapsed into crime. "Many have risen to high places as merchants and manufacturers, while the mass, with families about them, have been and are earning an honest livelihood in the humbler walks of life." In Massachusetts the report is equally hopeful. The convicts, when discharged, are offered immediate employment, and thus saved from temptation, and idleness, and crime. A cabinet-maker in Boston, employing from forty to fifty discharged prisoners, declares that he had never found it necessary to dismiss one for bad conduct. But with this meagre record the chance of help which the convict ceases. The man, whether a confirmed criminal, or one who has yielded to the swift, fierce temptation of a moment, or innocent (for juries are not infallible), is snatched away from his home, his family is left helpless, the old associations of his life are shattered in an hour, and he goes down into a living grave for years—half a lifetime, it may be. Some softening thoughts must come to him, buried from the busy world in solitude and silence; some honest, clear-sighted looking in on himself—the strength and weakness within him; on the God above him and his fellows—the reasons why they won the race while he miserably failed. When he comes out he fancies he will begin the world afresh. Give him an inch of standing-room, and he will work his way with clean hands. There is no knowing the height he may not reach. What comes of his plans? Criminal society having evoked the man's former life—having kept him apart for years for the nominal purpose of his reformation—throws him back suddenly into the highway as one would throw a withered weed. He is without work, without money; the damning stigma of the prison forever upon him; his friends of his better days disown him; his very children, it may be, have grown out of remembrance of him. Who is willing to employ a convict? His only chance is a return to vice, the only friendly hands stretched out to him are those that drag him down.

"The petitioners put this matter on an economic basis. What is the result? The community is put to the expense of another trial and another long imprisonment. Would not the relief plan be the most frugal? The subject has another aspect, which we commend to the pulpit and the press, that in a Christian country tens of thousands of men and women ask for the chance to lead a better life, and the response is almost utter silence.

THE AMAZONS OF PARIS. From the N. Y. Herald. The insurgent ruffians of Paris, among their desperate expedients to prolong their "Beggars Opera," have, it appears, invited the women of the city (that is, the women of the town) to form a military organization for their defense. The Amazons of the gay metropolis, who may be classified as the ruffians and cutthroats of their sex, figured conspicuously in nearly all the horrible atrocities of that hideous first French Revolution of 1793, of liberty, equality, fraternity, anarchy and the millennium. They were conspicuous in the storming of the Bastille; in the royal progress from Versailles to the capital, riding upon the cannon; in the pursuit of Louis XIV and his family in their flight from Paris; in the motley procession of the sans culottes which escorted the poor King back to the Tuilleries; in the mob which murdered the amiable Princess Lamballe, and marched in triumph through the streets with her head borne aloft upon a pike; in the bacchanalian orgies in the Tuilleries, with the occupation of the palace by the mob and obscene crowds which regularly, from morning till night, attended and exulted in drunken frenzy at the slaughters of the guillotine. Of all the demagogues in human shape let loose in Paris during that Reign of

Terror, and till the restoration of law, order, decency, and religion by the First Napoleon, these abandoned and bloodthirsty Amazons of Paris were the most diabolical, detestable and disgusting. They reappeared again in the streets among the Reds in the revolution of 1830, and in 1848, with the flight of Louis Philippe, they enacted an opera bouffe in the Tuilleries which will, perhaps, some day be set to the lively music and scanty costumes of Offenbach, unless he shall prefer the more abundant materials for the illustration of the Amazons of Paris to be found in the glorious reign of his Commune of ruffians and prostitutes of 1871. Voltaire justifies us in the notion that your average Parisian is "part monkey and part tiger," or part opera bouffe and part tragedy, a buffoon or an assassin. Victor Hugo in "Les Miserables" describes him, but even Hugo fails to describe the shocking Paris Amazon in the political life of French equality and women's rights. There are no loathing more revolting, more degraded, or debasing than this female monster under the sun. And these are the creatures to whom the Commune of Paris of 1871 have appealed to organize as a military phalanx for the defense of the city. What a mockery for Paris as the capital of civilization! What a chapter of infamy is this in the present degradation of France!

From the doings of the Commune in Paris during the last two or three weeks it is clear that their ultimate object is the universal republic of Anarchists Cloots. They have made considerable progress, too, as it appears, in this direction. They have abolished the rents for lodgings; they have driven off some two or three hundred thousand landowners and occupy their houses free of charge; they have abolished the Sabbath, and in their spoliation of banks, stores, and churches, in their imprisonment of priests and nuns, in their scourging of the archbishop, and in their blasphemous proclamations, they have prepared the way for parading again through the boulevards a woman of the town as the embodiment of their religion. Such are these Communists of Paris. Their whole programme may be reduced to these few words:—Everything for everybody; everything in common; no work, but a general carnival till everything on hand is eaten up, and then a sale of the national palace to raise the wind, and so on. And it appears, too, that in all these socialist doings the women of Paris, more than in any preceding revolution or revolt, are actively concerned.

How are we to account for this? Is it a natural outgrowth from the debaucheries of the empire? or is it a French development of women's rights? or is it due to the demoralizations of the late siege, or to the general spread of infidelity, domestic, political, and religious, among the people of Paris? All these demoralizing causes have evidently been at work, undermining the foundations of government and society in the gay city, now called to meet some of the penalties due for its sins and crimes. The German armies came first, as the Medes and Persians came down upon the gay city of Babylon and put an end to its reigning dynasty in the midst of a grand assaual. Under the German siege the army and the people of Paris were reduced for subsistence to horses, asses, elephants, lions, tigers, monkeys, alligators, rats, cats, and dogs, and such strange food on empty stomachs, and under all the fierce excitements of bloody and fruitless sorties, unquestionably contributed much to demoralize and brutalize the Parisians, women included. Then from the capitulation and the harsh conditions of peace exacted by Germany, and accepted from necessity by M. Thiers and the National Assembly, the general mind of Paris was so unbridled as to place the city and its people at the mercy of these reckless and desperate Jacobins.

Most lamentable in all these developments is the apparent widely increased demoralization of the women; for surely these Communists would not think of forming a military legion of the women of Paris if the women themselves had not applied for their equal rights in fighting. So much, then, among other causes—so much for the general agitation of women's rights. In the full fruition of this grand idea it gives us the Paris Amazon, a monster compared with which the savage Apache is a humanitarian and the filthy Hottentot a model of propriety and feminine fascination. If such are the outgrowths from the centre of modern civilization the question rears, is not this civilization, with its advanced ideas of equality, fraternity, women's rights, and Communism, crying its followers first to anarchy and then to barbarism? Reduce this advanced universal republic of Anarchists Cloots to its elementary principles and results, and do we not find them embodied in the half-starved Digger Indian?

HOW TO BEGIN REFORMING THE TARIFF.

From the N. Y. World. Public opinion regarding the tariff question has three distinct phases. There are thorough protectionists, who, either from self-interest or erroneous conviction, hold it the right and the duty of the Government to so adjust its taxes as to attempt fostering certain branches of industry, and who sustain the protective system, root and branch. There are also anti-protectionists, called usually by opponents and often by themselves free traders, who believe that the whole protective system is both erroneous and unjust, that no law should ever be framed with intent to favor capital or labor in any particular branch of industry, and that duties upon imports should be so adjusted as to put the least possible burden upon the people. But between these there is a third class, composed of men who do not understand or care nothing for the principle involved, but who vote for duties which are expected to foster local interests of their own or their constituents, and against duties which are found to affect those interests injuriously. With this class must be included all those unprincipled demagogues who are governed in their action, not by any honest desire for the welfare of the whole country, but by the hope of influencing the votes of some element or interest among their constituents.

The protectionist, where he is honest at all, may be regarded as the advocate of a policy, but he is not a man who should be the dupes of a patriotic delusion. He really believes that government can foster particular industries by imposing burdens upon others. True, he ought to know better. Candid reasoning or fair examination of facts would convince him that the burdens imposed by the protective system upon the consumers of any American product must do in the long run react against the producer, and more than balance the supposed advantages conferred. To the error of information he adds an error of judgment; he believes that government not only can foster particular industries, but that it is wise and just to do so. Again, he ought to know better; he ought to understand that every dollar thus conferred upon those interested in any industry must come out of the pockets of

others, that the nation can never afford to pay any man for employing his capital or labor in a manner naturally unprofitable and therefore wasteful, and that government has no right to tax one man for the benefit of another man. But, conclusive as the argument against protection is, there are honest men who still believe in and defend the system.

No such allowance can be made for those of that middle class who desire protection, only so far as it serves selfish interest. These men, whether they be monopolists or demagogues—whether their interest be pecuniary or political—are deliberately robbing the nation for their private advantage. What is the difference, in practical effect or moral obligation, between the plunderer who imposes an unjust tax in order that he may pocket the proceeds, and that other plunderer who imposes a tax equally unjust in order that he may elect him as his attorney? The demagogue just as much conceals as the other—just as truly a betrayer of the interests of his country for private advantage. If truth bears hard upon some members of Congress, Republican or Democratic, who know the un wisdom and injustice of the protective system and yet vote for monopoly taxes whenever demanded by the local interests of their constituents, they may console themselves with the reflection that we have expressed but faintly the contempt which must be felt for them even by those constituents for whose votes they sell their principles—their convictions of duty.

If it is right to tax the people for the benefit of any interest, it is right to tax for the benefit of all other interests as well. Between adherence to the protective system and rigid fidelity to the revenue basis in adjustment of the tariff, there is no middle ground on which an honest and sensible man can stand. One departure from the inflexible law that taxes shall be so laid as to impose the least possible burden upon the whole people will not only excuse but prepare the way for many others. Each tax for the benefit of a local or private interest, whenever imposed, or as long as maintained, enlists votes for the defense of all other taxes of the same nature, and supplies a pretext for the compensation of those who bear a share in the burden. An illustration of this effect was given in the recent attempt to repeal the duties on coal. Members from Maryland, who are doubtless ready to sweep away the whole protective system, and who, we trust, would never have voted to impose that duty, did it not already exist as part of the protective system, felt that while that system was maintained with all its burdens they did not wish their State deprived of its small share of apparent advantage. But a beginning must be made somewhere, and the same argument may be made against beginning anywhere else. If Maryland can win the duty on coal, Pennsylvania can win the duties on iron, Massachusetts its duties on woolen goods, and Connecticut its duties on cottons. We believe it wise to seize every opportunity to repeal any duty which is false in principle and burdensome to the country. Let a few bricks be knocked out of the arch of the monopolists, and the whole work will tumble in ruins, opening the way for a general adjustment of the tariff upon correct principles. With every repeal of an unjust duty, men of the middle class to which we have referred, no longer restrained by local interests, find themselves free to oppose protection as a whole; their constituents, no longer duped by an imaginary or insufficient compensation, will demand the overthrow of a system of which only the burdens remain. The shortest and surest way to secure a thorough reform is to concentrate the attack upon those special interests which act as outposts for the protective citadel. The field will then be open for a square contest between those who favor and those who oppose protection as a national policy—between those who believe that Government has the power and the right to foster particular branches of industry by imposing upon the whole people burdens indefensible for any other purpose, and those who maintain that no man should be taxed for the benefit of anybody else, but that all taxes should be adjusted solely with intent to raise the needed revenue at the least possible expense to the whole people. That question once fairly presented, the issue will be neither doubtful nor distant.

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R. J. DOBBINS, BUILDER, OFFICE, NOS. 5 and 6 LEDGER BUILDING, offers for sale the following properties at reduced prices: No. 1. Handsome four-story Brown Stone Residence, with side-yard, situated No. 1917 Chestnut street, finished with all modern conveniences. Built by the day without regard to cost. Lot 4 1/2 by 178 feet deep, to a back street. Clear of all incumbrance; will be sold a bargain. No. 2. Elegant three-story Brown Stone Residence, with Mansard Roof, situated west side of Broad, above Master street. Very commodious; finished with all modern conveniences. Built in a very superior manner. Lot 5 by 33 feet deep to Carlisle street. No. 3. Neat three-story Brick Dwelling, with side yard, No. 1415 North Eighteenth street, above Master, containing ten rooms, with all modern conveniences; will be sold below cost. No. 4. Lot west side Broad, 66 feet above Vine, 73 feet front, 125 feet deep to back street; will be sold so as to pay well for investment. Also, lot west side of Broad, above Thompson, 95 feet front, 200 feet deep, to Carlisle street, with brick stable for four horses. No. 5. A Cape May Cottage, located on the beach; is large and commodious; if not sold will be rented. No. 6. A good Farm in Midland township, Bucks county, containing 93 acres, with good improvements. 414

SALE OF THE ATSON ESTATE. ABOUT 30,000 ACRES OF LAND, TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION, AT THE WEST JERSEY HOTEL, CAMDEN, N. J., ON MAY 6, 1871, AT 1 O'CLOCK, P. M. TO SPECULATORS IN LAND, PROPRIETORS OF TOWNS AND CAPITALISTS GENERALLY, A RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR INVESTMENT IS PRESENTED! A FARM of about 700 acres, with extensive improvements, is included. SEVEN MILES and additional mill and manufacturing sites are on the property. RAILROADS traverse the entire length of the tract. ATSON STATION is the point of junction of two railroads. TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS may be favorably located. THE CEDAR TIMBER is of considerable value. CHERRY TREES, GRAPES, SWEET POTATOS, HOPS, etc., can be very successfully cultivated. GOOD TITLE will be made to the purchaser. SEND FOR A PAMPHLET containing particulars, and apply personally, or by mail, to GEORGE M. DALAS, Assignee, 224 3/4 No. 222 S. FOURTH ST., Philadelphia.

TO INSURE COMPANIES, CAPITALISTS, AND OTHERS. FOR SALE, BUSINESS PROPERTY, No. 427 WALNUT STREET. Four-story front, five-story double back buildings, occupied as offices, and suitable for an insurance company, 21 feet 9 inches front, 124 feet deep. S. KINGSTON MCCAY, 21st No. 429 WALNUT STREET.

FOR SALE—A BARGAIN! ELEGANT FOUR-STORY BROWN STONE RESIDENCE, WITH SIDE YARD, No. 1917 CHESTNUT STREET. Also, the FURNITURE, which is very handsome and new, will be sold for \$5000—less than cost. R. J. DOBBINS, Ledger Building, 412 1/2

FOR SALE LOW—AT CHESTNUT HILL—An unusual attractive and complete Cottage, 3/4 of an acre, with a view of the ocean; Situated on CHELSEA Avenue, within a short distance and having a fine view of the ocean; finished in the best style, with all the modern improvements—bath-room, hot and cold water, stationary wash-stands on second floor, and gas in all the rooms. The furniture is the best character, with velvet and tapestry carpets, and everything necessary to commence housekeeping at once. Apply to CHARLES H. MANSON, No. 329 N. SIXTH Street, Philadelphia, or No. 156 W. FOURTEENTH Street, New York.

TO RENT—THE RESIDENCE OF THE late Joseph Chew, Esq., deceased, at the corner of North Broad street and Berks avenue, will be rented or sold on favorable terms. No. 229 feet on Broad street, extending to Park avenue, is laid out in garden, and contains a large variety of choice fruit trees in full bearing, evergreens, etc. The dwelling-house is large and convenient, with gas, hot and cold water, furnace, etc. For further particulars apply to J. CHREW, Executor, 324 Franklin St., No. 91 N. FOURTH STREET.

FOR RENT—A HOUSE IN CHELSEA HAM. Furnished or unfurnished. Within five minutes' walk of City Line Station, North Pennsylvania Railroad. 47 W. R. J. DOBBINS, Ledger Building.

LOOKING CLASSES, ETC. NEW ROGERS GROUP, "RIP VAN WINKLE," NEW CHROMOS. All Chromos sold at 25 per cent. below regular rates. All of Prang's, Bowers', and all others. Send for catalogue. Looking-Glasses, ALL NEW STYLES, At the lowest prices. All of our own manufacture. JAMES S. EARLE & SONS, No. 816 CHESTNUT STREET.

TOBACCO. LEAF TOBACCO. 100 CASES CHOICE CONNECTICUT WAPPERS, Crop 1869. For sale by DAVID L. KETLER, Nos. 59 and 61 South FOURTH Street, Philadelphia.

DISPENSARY FOR SKIN DISEASES, No. 216 S. ELEVENTH Street. Patients treated gratuitously at this institution daily at 11 o'clock. 114

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY have declared a quarterly dividend of TWO AND A HALF PER CENT. payable at their office, No. 308 WALNUT Street, up stairs, on and after SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1871. L. CHAMBERLAIN, 31 Walnut St. Treasurer.

BACHELOR'S HAIR DYE—THIS SPLENDID Hair Dye is the best in the world, the only true and permanent. Hairless—Reliable—Instantaneous—no disappointment—no ridiculous tints—Does not irritate. Lead nor any Vitric Poison to injure the Hair or System. Invigorates the Hair and leaves it soft and beautiful; Black or Brown. Sold by all Druggists and Dealers. Applied at the Factory, No. 16 Bond Street, New York. 1431 NEW YORK.

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UNIVERSITY LECTURES.—Thirty-three courses in 1870-71, of which twenty begin in the week February 19-19. These lectures are intended for graduates of colleges, teachers, and other competent adults (men or women). A circular describing them will be mailed on application. THE LAW SCHOOL has been reorganized this year. It has seven instructors, and a library of 16,000 volumes. A circular explains the new course of study, the requisites for the degree, and the cost of attending the school. The second half of the year begins February 13. For catalogue, circulars, or information, address J. W. HARRIS, Secretary, 262m

DEB HILL SCHOOL. MERCHANTVILLE, N. J. Four Miles from Philadelphia. The session commenced MONDAY, April 10, 1871. For circulars apply to Rev. T.