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EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS-COMPLLED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

DOGS' DELIGHT. From the N. Y. Tribune.

We were premature in congratulating General Butler on giving up his personal explana-tion, and the House of Representatives on a permanent relief from these casual half-hours of vulgar wrangling. He might very well have allowed the matter to stand where the grasshopper of the Blue Grass left it. Mr. Davis asserted that he had acted like a blackguard in his interview with Butler, and there was no necessity for Butler to gainsay it. He might have left the foul-mouthed Kentuckian, as the Western boy once proposed to leave a specimen of the Viverra Mephilis, to perish in his own fragrance. But General Butler has no conception of the virtues of reserve and silence. He has gained great promi-nence by bullying quiet people, and naturally feels a little confused when the same regimen is applied to him. He could not bear to go home without striking a blow at his two enemies, Davis and Farnsworth, and in so doing called up the most disgraceful scene that any Congress has recently furnished. If, when he read the report he did not think he has had enough of personal explana-tions to last a life-time, he must belong to an order of pachyderms hitherto undescribed.

It would have been difficult to find in any bar-room of Water street on Thursday, three such blackguards as Butler, Beck, and Farnsworth. All three of them spoke with equal coarseness, venom, and discourtesy. The House was to blame for allowing Butler to begin. It was still further to blame for permitting Farnsworth to repeat a stale assault upon the member from Massachusetts. And the climax of disgusting farce was reached when Beck, equally reckless of the honor of the House, the sacredness of the committeeroom, and the dignity of human nature, re-peated before the world the loathsome details of a scene of ruffianly violence between Farnsworth and Butler, in which the former acted the brute and the latter the craven. The whole scene is singularly unique and harmonious in its vileness. It is so intolerable in its savor that this closing hour tinges unwholesomely the entire session.

Perhaps there is some compensation hid-den behind this disgrace. This business of personal explanations had grown such an abuse that it needed to be made insufferable. This has now been done. There is no lower deep than that sounded by the three rowdy champions of Thursday. The House may yet derive some advantage from this throwing of stench-pots. It is possible that the men who engaged in that aromatic pastime may gain a lesson from it. Perhaps Mr. Beck's Ku-klux constituents will see no harm in his dishonoring the name of Congressman on the floor of the House. But Mr. Farnsworth has a district of decent men behind him, in which he has already reduced to little or nothing the greatest majority in the country, and Thursday's proceedings ought to finish it or finish him. As to Mr. Butler, if there is anything remaining of him after the sanguinary row he provoked, we may safely leave it to be dealt with by his Yankee fellow-citizens, who will certainly object to being represented by a man who has not discretion enough to pluck enough to carry them through.

comings are slight indeed when compared with the shameless misrule and universal cor-ton during the last fifteen years by railway bills for which the roads could afford to pay, ruption which characterize the Democrats when they obtain the upper hand. The best commentary on this address is furnished by Democratic legislation at Albany during the past winter. When the people want the Na-tional Government moulded on that of this State they will put the Democrats in power, and not before.

OHEEK. From Every Saturday.

Colonel Admiral Romeo Achilles Fisk-Prince of Erie and Protector of the Fairy Queen of the Submarine Grotto of Gleamirg Delights—is not a person whose modesty has impressed itself very deeply upon the public mind. His modesty has never been known to stand injuriously between him and the attainment of any of his desires, financial or convivial. The word "cheek," in its or convivial. The word "cheek," in its modern significance, was created by pro-phetic philologists in anticipation of his arriving at maturity—which he did the other day at the age of thirty-eight; and when he passes away the word will become obsolete except in connection with his memory. Cool, unblushing, uncon-scious audacity is the chief characteristic of the colleged whether he appear as the gallant Colonel, whether he appear as Admiral on the high seas of Long Island Sound, or as an amateur gentleman driving his four-in-hand on Fifth Avenue, or as the fatted proprietor of the opera bouffe, or as the manager of Erie, or in his more terror-striking role of Achilles, at the head of the New York 9th Regiment. It is in all his terrible beauty as a warrior that we pause to regard him at the present moment, as it is in this dazzling shape that he has just given us a fresh instance of his inimitable effrontery.

It is no fault of the daily papers if it is not pretty generally understood that the New York 9th Regiment, Colonel Fisk commanding, is to visit Boston on the 17th of June to assist the descendants of the Puritans in celebrating the anniversary of a memorable event. At one time it was contemplated to let the 17th of June lie over for one year, if Colonel Fisk did not see fit to volunteer to come on and take charge of the thing. He is coming, pretty much at his own suggestion; but matters are by no means so smooth as might be expected. Brother Fisk-whose austere piety is well known-has it in his programme to have public religious services on the Common on Sunday, the 18th. This devotional spirit does not seem to meet with ready encouragement in many quarters. We are grieved to notice this, for no doubt the services would be highly impressive. As we write these words, a vision of the possible spectacle rises before our fancy's eye—we see General Boum, and Prince Paul, and Barons Grog and Puck, and Colonel James Fritz himself, and the lovely Duchesse de Gerolstein (acting vivandiere of the Ninth) standing with bowed heads around the Frog Pond, while the funeral strains of Ah! que j'aime les militaires! floats solemnly among the astonished treetops. The trees, in our vision, would dance from their places, as if to the music of Amphion, only that each tree is neatly labelled with its botanical name, and if it attempted to escape from the Common would be recognized and collared by the first policeman.

It is objected by some people wholly de-void of sentiment, that one or two thousand warriors, with colors flying and brass bands clashing, would make it rather lively in our streets for those Bostonians who have an old-fashioned idea that the Sabbath is not a

and more especially by drawing the municipal affairs of this great city into the Albany vor-tex. The corruption funds have been chiefly supplied from these two sources; and it has been the settled aim of our Democratic Governor and Legislature to dry up these foun-tains by removing such subjects from Albany control. Governor Hoffman's vetoes, so countless by their multitude, and so diversified in their subjects, have been governed by a persistent unity of purpose, the key and clue to the greater part of them being his invincible determination to substitute general laws for specific legislation, and thus diminish the corrupting jobs that annually come to Albany for legislative sanction. Even when the promoters of such jobs are not ready to pay money to get them through, they debauch legislation in another way, by the process called "log-rolling." Governor Hoffman has aimed to cut up the whole sys-tem by the roots, and save the time and the morals of the Legislature by wise and compichensive general laws. The Democratic Legislature has acted in

pursuance of the same principle. The most important of its measures are those relating to the government of this city, which have beretofore been the chief source of corruption at the State capital. The chorus of howis which the Republican press has raised over the two per cent, tax levy bill can deceive nobody. The whole Republican press of the State has for years borne witness to the fact that the ordinary tax levy is no guarantee against extravagant expenditures. There has never been any difficulty in getting a Republican Legislature to sanction every item which the city authorities have asked for. If the Republican press is to be believed, the an-Lual tax levy has been regularly passed by bribing Republican members. The New York tax levy has been the great placer of every EESSion. This source of legislative corruption is completely dried up by the new law which remands the estimates and appropriations to the city authorities, with a rigorous limit to the rate of taxation and the amount of expenditure. Whatever may be the effect of this law on the local government, nobody can dispute its tendency to purify the State Le-gislature. And as the rate of city taxation is to be considerably less than heretofore, it is manifest that this advantage is not purchased at the expense of the city tax-payers.

Whether the limited power of taxation is lodged in the right hands is a difficult question, which cannot be solved by theoretical reasoning, but only by the result of the ex-periment. If, on trial, it is not found to work well, we hold ourselves as free to denounce it as we now are to favor it as a provisional and tentative expedient. It is a choice of evils, but it is difficult to see where the power could be deposited with less hazard. The experience of many years has shown that the revision of the tax levy by the Legislature is no check on municipal extravagance. The city authorities have always got everything they asked for, and the tax payers have been burdened with the bribes paid to secure the passage of the bill. The old Board of Supervisors, now happily abolished, was as little to be trusted as the Legislature. The alleged corruption of the Common Council was the pretext for taking the tax levy out of its hands and transferring it to Albany. There is not an intelli-gent man in the city who would wish the Board of Supervisors revived, or the power of taxation again vested in the Common Council.



DEMOCRATIC WIND-BAGS.

From the N. Y. Times. The Democrats in Congress have issued an

address to the people. They begin by de-nouncing "centralization" and a "subsidized Upon hearing this, the first imprespress." sions of most people will be that the object of their attack is the Democratic Government of New York-for surely such an example of "centralization" was never seen in the world before. All power is placed in the world balf a dozen men, and the people are no longer allowed to have a voice even in the election of the chief officials—still less any control over them when they are in office. Again, if we want to see a subsidized press, we must certainly look to New York for it, where numerous papers are kept in existence by corporation advertisements, for the sole purpose of supporting the corrupt faction of the Democratic party. Unless these journals were thus fed and propped up, most of them would drop out of existence in less than three weeks, and all of them would denounce the palpable and shameless mis-government of the city and State. But these are not the circums tances which move the Democrats in Congress to protest. Their anger is kindled against the "Radicals"—those wicked Radicals who saved the country from being split into frag-ments in 1861, and who have ever since tried to preserve the honor and increase the prosperity of the country. These are grave crimes, and the Democrats in Congress cannot regard them with patience. They say that "honesty, fitness, and moral worth are openly discarded in favor of truckling submission and dishonorable compliance; hence enormous defalcations and widespread corruption have followed as the natural consequences of this pernicious system." If this was not intended to refer to Connolly and his friends, the Democrats have unintentionally given an exact description of their rule and the results to which it has led. When they say, "if the career of these conspirators be not checked, the downfall of free government is inevitable," it is impossible any longer to resist the belief that they had their eyes fixed on their worthy associates who have turned free government into a mockery in this State.

"Nothing is left to the citizen or the State which can any longer be called a right; all is changed into mere sufferance." Here, once more, we have a perfect description in a small compass of Democratic principles of government as exemplified in New York. What the address means by the "sacred rights of States," as applied to the South, Jefferson Davis recently explained at greater length in his speech at Selma. The people understand pretty well what the Democratic idea of State rights really conveys. The address proposes no definite policy-it consists merely of windy declamation against the Radicals for abusing the powers of government. The Democrats forget that there would have been no government at all by this time, in the sense in which we have hitherto had one, but for these same desperate Radicals. That the Republicans have made some mistakes-notably in allowing another session to elapse without a revision of the tariff and a further reduction of taxation-a very large section of the party freely admits. But it is a little too good a joke for the Democrats to prate about honesty and economy in government. What they have done in this State they would do everywhere if they had the power. Republican short-

good day for a general spree. It can hardly be expected that what he would consider narrow theological prejudices will induce the scarred hero to change the plan of his cam-psign. But such small bickering naturally annoys the Colonel, and he oughtn't to be

annoyed. Another thing troubles him. With that exquisite sense of humor which we now and then see in great commanders, Colonel Fisk took it into his head-where he had plenty of room-that he would like to have the city of Boston give him-what do you suppose?a public reception ! With that shyness and morbid timidity which render his public and his private life so beautiful, he immediately applied to our worthy Mayor for those civic honors which are usually reserved for real soldiers. This seems incredible, but it is a fact. We think the time is not quite ripe for the capital of this Commonwealth to give an official reception to Colonel Admiral Romeo Achilles Fisk, even though he offer, as he does, to pay all the expenses!

DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATION AT AL-BANY.

From the N. Y. World.

We detest cant, and will say nothing of the recent session which we do not honestly believe. It is the first session in many years when the Democratic party has had a majority in both branches of the Legislature, and the party cannot escape its proper responsibility for the use it has made of its power.

In point of integrity we suppose it will not be disputed that this Legislature compares favorably with any of its long series of Republican predecessors. It has not been charged, or even suspected, that money has been used to secure the passage of bills except in the recent case of Winans. If Irving had not lost control of himself and committed a violent assault on another Democratic member, the session would have closed without a breath of the kind of scandal which has made all the Republican Legislatures of the last ten years a foul stench in the nostrils of the people. We know nothing of the motives of Winans; but if the Republicans choose to blacken a member of their own party, it is not incumbent on us to defend him. If their charges are true, they have greater reason to be ashamed of him than we have to be ashamed of Irving. The worst that can be said of Irving is that he has an uncontrollable temper, which is a venial fault compared with that laid at the door of Winans by the members of his own party. If Irving's impulsive use of his fist had not compelled him to resign, we should have had, for the first time in a dozen years, a Legislature in which no bill was passed by means open to suspicion. A Democratic majority is thus attended with the great moral gain of a purification of the Legislature from the old taint of bribery. When that narrow majority was accidentally lost, the Republicans say that a member of their own party was in the market. Their caucus implied that not merely one but many Republicans were ready to be bought, and that every Republican member needed to be put under bonds. None but Republicans could know their party so well. The only effectual cure for legislative cor-

ruption is the removal of temptation. Bills that have money in them are the only ones that have money in them are the only ones-whose promoters can afford a fund for bribery. To use a Scripture phrase, "where the carcass is there will the eagles be gathered together." It is the tariff and railroad grouts that supply the suffews of corruption in Con-gress. It was the fat army contracts and the building of so many vessels that domoralized the public service during the war. The Albany

Those who declaim against the new law have not attempted to show where the power could be more safely lodged.

The government of great cities is one of the most difficult problems of modern politics. It is at present depriving afflicted France of the blessings of peace. The proper method of assessing local expenses is just now the leading topic in the British Parlia-ment, Mr. Goschen's new bill on that subject being the engrossing theme of the English newspapers. In England, as in this country, there is a vast increase of local expenditures, most of which results from the growth of cities. The London Economist, in a very long article on Mr. Goschen's report, speech burdens has been that the purely local rates have greatly increased: in fact, they belong almost exclusively to the age of great cities, and to the modern disposition to miscellane-ons improvement. * * * * We know generally that they are the creation of recent times."

We are only experiencing what is experi-enced in other countries in this "age of great cities." New York being the most important of American cities, the problem is presented here in its most unwieldy form. While London flounders, and Paris welters in blood, we may congratulate ourselves that we have so promising a prospect of a satisfactory solu-tion. The old form of municipal government bas broken down even in the small city of Washington, and the legislation at Albany will compare favorably, in every respect, with that of Congress for the District of Columbia, althou, h the latter is so simple and manageable in comparison. It it not probable that a perfect scheme for the government of great cities has been struck out at a single heat; but the New York experiment has as fair a promise of success as any which has yet been devised. Our municipal government is not more expensive in proportion than that of London, although labor is so much chesper in that metropolis, and it lacks our admirable system of free schools, supported at the public expense. The 1 ew experiment here 1s hopeful and deserves a fair trial.



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