

The Columbian.

BLOOMSBURG, PA. Friday Morning, Feb. 10, 1871.

San Domingo. An article from the West Chester Jeffersonian, in reply to the Columbian on the San Domingo question, is going "the rounds" of our exchanges. In that article the Jeffersonian says:

San Domingo never flourished, except under the lash of slavery, protected by the strong arm of the military and of law, the expenses of which were never taken into account, as a commercial act, since freedom triumphed in the end, by the sacrifice of a bloody massacre of the white population. Why has it not flourished since? Why does it not flourish now?

In reply to the two questions we answer: want of a stable government and consequent protection to life and property. The question raised as to the profits or property of negro slavery is now of no consequence and does not require or merit discussion. But we ask, if San Domingo 50 to 80 years ago was capable of exporting annually one hundred millions of dollars worth of productions, under oppressive and unstable government, how much more is the island capable of under substantial government? The relative profits of productions with or without slavery, and with or without stable government, are to be considered, but we insist that the latter greatly preponderates over the former.

By the annexation, the single item of free coffee and sugar would outweigh all costs of purchase and government. The individual citizens of the United States are concerned. The Jeffersonian further says:

Men's natures are not changed by act of Congress. They may be made citizens, but in all respects they remain the same. The annexation of San Domingo would attach to an individual citizen of the United States and permit to every white man connected with it.

But men's natures are changed by good government. If not, then the whole idea of government is a failure. Its very purpose is to make men behave themselves and to improve their condition. The "element" spoken of has never of itself been troublesome to the people of the United States. Emphatically, so far as this country is concerned, they have been the passive force about which two dogs were fighting. Naturally, the negro has always been easily governed by the presence and by the power of the white man. However placed, under every circumstance, when properly governed he will seek his natural condition: the servant of the white man. As such servant, good laws may make him as valuable and as content when free as in any other condition. We also call the attention of our contemporary to the fact which he has evidently overlooked, that the negro proper has been driven out of San Domingo to the other end of the island, and that the people left in San Domingo approach the white generally the descendants of mulatto and Spanish parents, a stock that is believed to be an improvement upon pure African, and claimed to be an improvement even upon pure African and pure white mixed. Again, the Jeffersonian says:

We had no negro equality forced upon us under the name of freedom. We had to wait to see the experience of a few years teach us what to expect, before extending the area.

The debasement of the whites has been effected. That is already a fixed fact, and is not now a question for consideration. Whether we have a half a million more or less of the inferior breeds to govern is a matter of little concern. If we can govern four millions of them we can readily govern four and a half—if we can not, the addition could make matters no worse.

As to the general subject, Mr. Polk, who justly ranks as one of the wisest and ablest of the Presidents of the past, and the brilliancy of whose administration shines brightest in the proud constellation of American Statesmanship, was the first to propose the annexation of Louisiana. The unresolvable opposition of his political antagonists, fresh from their defeat on the Texas issue, and the faint-heartedness of his friends (mostly the latter) alone prevented him from acquiring the island.

It is absurd for the Democracy to oppose the proposition now. Annexation south and west has ever been the policy of all Democratic administrations and is the traditional creed of the party. The political party that effected the annexation of Louisiana, Texas, California, New Mexico, with its inferior population, Arizona, &c., &c., and their multitudes of Indians, truly cuts a sorry figure now in opposing San Domingo, the equal of the best of them comparatively in natural wealth, and transcendently important as a Naval station. Having established the policy of annexation, and maintained it at all times, the Democratic party should be the last to condemn the logical results to which that policy leads. It is a pitiful figure the politicians cut in opposing the measure now merely because Gen. Grant supports it. If he is guilty of all the realty that is charged upon him in connection with the subject, and ten thousand times more, that can not affect the merits of the question one way or the other. As well might it be argued that the whole government ought to be abolished because rogues get into Congress and all other offices, at times, and that the people should be swept from existence because there are some rascals amongst them. For the sake of peace with our contemporaries we are willing to believe Gen. Grant to be all sorts of a humbug, or as bad as they want to make him (if they prove their charges) yet we cannot swallow the dose when they ask us to believe that he is totally incapable of a good act, nor can we subscribe to the doctrine that a good thing becomes a bad one because he advocates it. If he effects the annexation of San Domingo it will be the proudest feather in his cap and it will be an everlasting reproach to the Democracy if they do not help him to accomplish it. The opposition of the Democracy would forever be a stumbling block in the way of future annexation. Do our objecting contemporaries suppose that we will never want a part or the whole of Mexico? Don't they know that a party which has one policy to-day and another to-morrow does not deserve and can never possess the confidence of the country? Must we submit to the degradation of being governed by party spleen?

Table with 2 columns: REP. STATES ELECTORS, DEM. STATES ELECTORS. Lists electoral votes for various states like Massachusetts, New York, etc.

Presidential Calculations. The New York Tribune has been figuring on the next Presidential election. The following is the result:

This statement is based on the latest results of elections in the several States. 161 Electoral votes are necessary to a choice. Of the above States put down to the Democratic side, that party can certainly carry every one, except, perhaps, Connecticut and Indiana, and its chances for these are much the best.

Gen. Grant. We have no purpose to create public prejudice against Gen. Grant, but we object to him being palmed upon the public as a Democrat, or that party being held in any manner responsible for his action. The fact that he claims to be a Democrat amounts to just nothing, for he has ever claimed to belong to that party, though fighting it with the greatest energy and bitterness during nearly his entire manhood.

General Jackson. The attempt to excuse Gen. Grant for having several army officers about him, one of whom is his private Secretary, by the assertion that Gen. JACKSON had done the same thing, is a very curious and unaccountable proceeding. It is as if it were a weakness in a selfish and weak Convention and a disgrace to the party to place him on the ticket as the Democratic candidate for Vice President. A writer in the Pittsburg Post gives the following information to the public which is deemed of consequence as affording a view of Gen. JACKSON's character different from that the public usually ascribe to him and corroborative of what his intimate friends always claimed, viz: that he was one of the most amiable of men in the private relations of life.

The Post says: "From a personal acquaintance with Judge HAYWARD, the writer is authoritatively enabled to correct an error which is very generally accepted as a historical fact; namely, that President JACKSON was in the habit of swearing, and that by the General was a favorite oath which he used. The use of this expletive, in connection with the South Carolina nullification, is set down as a fact in history. Nothing is said further from the pen of Judge HAYWARD has repeatedly assured us that during his long and intimate acquaintance with General JACKSON, he never knew him to utter a profane oath, and but rarely to exhibit temper."

European News. Of course there has been no fighting since the armistice in France. The surrender of Paris is completed, the Germans have possession of all the forts, the French army of Paris are disarmed, the Prussians are making every endeavor to supply the starving Parisians with food, with only partial success, and general order has been restored. The election of members of a National assembly, whose first business it will be to set up a government, was ordered for February 8th. Gambetta issued a proclamation excluding all Bonapartists, Orleanists and Bourbons from lot or part in the election, but Favre denies the validity of his act and pronounced it void. Gambetta insisted, but finally gave the point and resigned his office. We judge that the so-called Republic has few friends, and that the contest for supremacy will finally be between the Bonapartists and the Orleanists. As all parties will combine against the former, the latter may be successful for a period more or less brief, but no doubt a preponderating majority of the French prefer the dynasty of Napoleon, and before many years some one of that family will resume the throne of France.

Prussia is making the strongest possible efforts to increase the strength of her armies, to be ready to crush the French to the earth if their new government does not agree to peace. All direct interference or suggestion is haughtily rejected. The Conference of "the great powers" is said to have yielded all that Russia demanded.

The periodical reports about the death of Dr. Livingston, the African explorer, are again afloat. The Doctor has been killed about once a year, by his nervous friends in England, for the last quarter of a century. The darkies would do nervous people a favor if they would stretch him out.

Constitutional Reform. If we are to judge the intention of certain leading Republicans in our State, by the bills they have introduced, they should be compelled to conclude that they intend to prevent any Constitutional reform. Several bills of a partisan character have been introduced, one in the Senate by Mr. Conell, of Philadelphia, and one in the House by Mr. Mann of Potter. Each of these bills is a decided partisan measure. The Democrats would be wanting in spirit and regard for the public good if they allowed any such bill to pass. They are ready and willing to vote for a bill which will give equal representation to the two great political parties in a Constitutional Convention. If they do not, they ought not to allow any act to pass which would give either party a majority. Only from a non-partisan Convention can any reform be expected. If either party should have a majority, the time of the convention would be consumed in efforts to secure partisan advantages, bitterness of feeling would be engendered, the confidence of the people in the action of the Convention would be shaken, and the amended constitution would be likely to be rejected when it came before the people. The action of the Republican majority in the House, in rushing through the crude bill proposed by Mr. Mann, shows a settled determination to give a strongly partisan character to the contemplated Constitutional Convention. The Legislature will never submit. They will support any bill which will insure equality of representation, but none other. If they do not, they will be sustained by the independent press of the State and by a vast majority of the people of Pennsylvania.—Lancaster Commonwealth.

Our able contemporary speaks our objections to the action of the Democrats in the Legislature. Mr. MANN proposes to pay the members of the Convention twelve dollars per day, which is not only absurdly extravagant, but would be sure to fill the Convention with drivelling politicians. The way to obtain the services of competent and worthy representatives in the Convention is to fix the pay, if any, at a small sum, and to allow no election to the Convention for the sake of the pay. This would secure the services of men who had only patriotic objects in view, as well as men of capacity.

The bill that passed the House is open to all objections named. It certainly cannot pass the Senate, and no doubt a much fairer and better one will be substituted by the Senate. Mr. MANN is a politician of the mole species, and is entirely above his high-sounding name. He is a man of no important Constitutional bills. That is a work for Statesmen, men of enlarged views and intelligent comprehension of public wants. Small Legislators may be good enough for small things, but when it comes to questions of extensive application and of general public importance, small fry are not only useless, but often mischievous. They rarely do so good a thing as to seek their level and be content with that.

French Republicanism does not mean Democratic institutions like ours, but lawlessness, proscription, violence, turbulence, a leveling process instead of an elevating one. Frenchmen never will sustain a Republic for the simple reason that they will not voluntarily obey law, the very foundation stone of free institutions. The present medley they are in they have brought on themselves, but it is a lawless medley, and it is not to be expected that they will sustain it. They have at length found their master, and this is sometimes as profitable to States as to individual violators of law and right. The Philadelphia Day gives the following clear, and we believe accurate, description of the political condition of France:

Beyond Paris, excepting perhaps Bordeaux and Lyons, there is doubtless a feeling of sympathy for the Republic of the empire. The war was forced upon the emperor by the active politicians of France; and we apprehend that the Bourbon government touching the election of members of the national assembly, was the last straw which broke all shades of the opposition, combined to compel a declaration of war, as a means of overthrowing the empire. The Emperor's government was a mere puppet, and the Emperor himself was a mere figurehead. The Emperor's government was a mere puppet, and the Emperor himself was a mere figurehead. The Emperor's government was a mere puppet, and the Emperor himself was a mere figurehead.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. STATEMENT OF THE FINANCES OF COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA. From January 1, 1870 to January 1, 1871. DAVID LOWENBERG, Esq., Treasurer of Columbia County, in account with the County for county purposes, for 1870.

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