

PROVIDENCE IN POLITICS

Those who believe in Special Providence have not failed to discern in the occurrences of the past quarter of a century manifestations of the Divine interposition. The agitation of the slavery question, by those who sought to bring about its abolition, though conducted by bad minds and zealous hearts, had apparently only strengthened the power and perpetuity of the peculiar institution, when by the mad acts of the slaveholders themselves, the twin relics of barbarism were suddenly and unexpectedly brought to an end—the shackles fell from the limbs of the slave, and woe came upon his former master. What years of patient and persistent agitation had failed to accomplish, was brought about suddenly by those who sought to extend and strengthen slavery. The maddest that ruled the South, precipitating its people into acts of fratricidal violence, might well be claimed as a special Providence, designed to efface the stigma of human slavery, and its dreadful results as a punishment to those who held the oppressed in bondage.

Instances have not been wanting since, in the political history of the country, to impress more forcibly the belief that there is an overruling Providence that controls the destinies of nations—and we trust that it is not irrelevant to those who firmly believe that it has been exerted to prevent the nation from falling into the power of the Democratic party. The Republican party has not been without unwise counsellors and occasionally corrupt leaders. It has not always satisfied the people—it has not at times walked abreast of the public requirements, nor always conformed to the public will. So there have been occasions when it seemed as if the Democratic party was inevitably to come into power, and assume full control of the Government. The danger has always been averted by causes which were unforeseen and unlooked for, but which were the offspring of the actions of that party. When danger threatened the nation through Democratic supremacy, it has been the Democracy themselves who, blinded and dazzled with the prospect of victory and drunk with the hopes of power and spoils, have made themselves obnoxious by their declarations and projects by the voice of the people expressed at the ballot-box. Whenever that party has achieved temporary success, it has used its power in such a way as to prove that it was unfit to be trusted, and its overthrow has been speedy and certain.

The time has once more arrived, when the indications are such as point to Democratic domination. The Congress of the Nation is composed of a majority of that party. A solid South seems to have Northern friends and supporters sufficient, to say the least, to make the result of the Presidential election in 1880 doubtful. The outlook is sufficiently grave to create the apprehension of every true patriot. The Southern element of the Democracy has full control of that party. Never in the hey-day of doughfacedness were its Northern adjuncts more subservient. Is the party to come into power in 1880, or is the same hand that has in the past averted similar dangers, to save us from this dread calamity? Is this nation descending to further punishment, which is about to be meted out to it—or will the clouds which now threaten to break, be averted, and the sun of peace and prosperity shine upon the land?

Indications are not wanting that the madness which goes before destruction, is to rule the Democracy, and the fatuity of those who having power, either do not know how to use it, or else are urged on to rash acts for their own destruction, is to guide them to the perpetration of deeds which will again show the people how dangerous it is to trust the government to the keeping of those who sought by force of arms to destroy it. Northern cunning would exercise sufficient precaution to conceal the plots of the conspirators so as not to excite the popular apprehension, but Southern impetuosity and arrogance will not be thus restrained. Already the demand of the Confederates for the repeal of certain obnoxious laws, with the alternative of stopping the supplies for branches of the government, has been made, and accepted by their Northern adjuncts. Mr. Tucker proposes to open positions in the army to Confederates, and the election of Jeff. Davis, as a Senator from Mississippi, is seriously considered, and if it could be done would rejoice the hearts of the Democracy North and South.

These indications are the forerunners of what is to come, should the Democracy control the government. They are the manifestations of what the country may expect when Providence punishes the nation with Democratic rule. The danger will become so imminent, the calamity so alarming, as to awaken the sluggish and confiding voters of the North to action, and thus by their votes to overthrow the party which now seeks to capture the control of the government, as a means of achieving results which could not be conged by the sword, is to be hoped. This desirable result is in a fair way to be brought about by the insolent and arrogant demands of the Confederates in Congress, and by the compliant and servile yielding of Northern Democrats to their unreasonable and selfish measures. It is possible that the consciousness of power and the disposition to abuse power when once attained, will urge the majority in Congress to such ultra and revolutionary acts as will thoroughly arouse the intelligent and thinking voters of the north to a proper sense of the peril which threatens the country, and that from the nettle danger may be plucked the flower safety.

No good citizen can desire to see such a conflict between the North and the South, as shall again engender sectional feeling, with the danger of anarchy and possible bloodshed. The universal feeling North is for peace. The recollections of the unfortunate past with its memories and bereavements, have long since given way to a feeling of forgiveness towards those who brought so much sorrow upon the land. But the South will not permit the indulgence of this feeling of charity and forgiveness. The North is shocked and outraged daily by the utterances of treason and disloyalty, and by encumbers upon those who were foremost in the work of rebellion. In Congress, the first use of newly acquired power, is to attempt to wipe out all legislation which made treason odious, and the declaration is that the true test of loyalty was in bearing arms for the Confederacy and making war upon the Union. Will these signs be sufficient? Or will the Northern people seize upon the government, and with the immense power then in their hands, make themselves recompense for all the losses sustained in their attempt to overthrow the government? If the people meet this crisis now as its importance deserves, a peaceful solution will be had; if they wait until the Democracy come into power, it will take years to undo the evil wrought. We cannot but believe that the danger is to be averted, in the same way and by the same means that have hitherto protected and saved us when perils seemed most imminent.

SECRETARY SHEPARD'S success in refunding the national debt at a low rate of interest, has been remarkable and exhibits a very striking contrast to the great financial ability of the Secretary. The 5-20's having been absorbed, the 10-40's were next to be refunded. There was some doubt as to whether the Treasury would be successful, but on Thursday comes an offer for \$150,000,000, which will sweep out of circulation all of that class of bonds. And still another offer is made to take \$10,000,000 more. This is the largest purchase of bonds, or rather loan to a government, on record. It speaks volumes for the wealth of the country, and for the confidence felt by moneyed men in the stability of the Government. On the other hand, however, it shows that there are no remunerative and safe investments in active business for capital, and that the possessors of so much money are willing to place it in government securities at a low rate of interest, rather than invest it in business enterprises. A great proportion of the indebtedness of the country is held at home, the bonds in foreign hands having been sent here for sale or redemption. The refunding of this year will save \$9,000,000 annual interest.

It is gratifying to know that the most perfect harmony prevails between the President and the Republicans in Congress, and that the position of the former in regard to the pending political amendments to the Constitution, is in full accord with the Republicans in Congress, and the unanimous sentiment of the party throughout the country. President Hayes, with the frankness for which he is distinguished, acknowledges that he has given the policy of conciliation a fair trial and that his kindness and consideration had not been in the same spirit, and has learned by experience that all his advances and concessions have been ungratefully received. The President is also represented as saying that the Republican position was the true one for the people, and the one most essential to the interests of the peace, security and happiness of the country, and that he should co-operate with the Republicans in Congress in their efforts to prevent the adoption of improper legislation.

The bill to pay the damages occasioned by the Pittsburgh riots, was finally disposed of on Wednesday last week, as we briefly announced in our last issue, by a close vote, on the motion to reconsider the vote by which it had previously been defeated—and by the rules it cannot come up again this session. This bill has occupied the attention of the House to the exclusion of other important business, and has occasioned much ill-feeling and been the source of some scandal. Involving a large amount of liability, the question as to who should foot the bill became a vital interest to the people of Pittsburgh, whose municipal indebtedness is already very onerous, and it is not surprising a large number of her reputable citizens should have been at Harrisburg lending their aid to the proposition to throw the burden upon the State. In the discussions by the friends and opponents of the measure, there has been manifested a degree of personal feeling and an amount of crimination and recrimination which was unseemly, and its effects very seriously interfere with a fair and equitable settlement. The magnitude of the sum at issue, was calculated at first thought to arouse the antagonism of the tax-payers, and the presence of a numerous and professional lobby urging the passage of the bill, at once excited suspicion that corrupt influences were to be employed. What should have been met in a spirit of fairness and justice, and decided judiciously upon the highest grounds of fair-dealing and equity, has been treated in a narrow and cowardly manner, as on the one hand, the tax-payers were not to be responsible and burdens justly and legally belonging to her; and on the other that those who were conscientiously opposed to the assumption by the State of liabilities for the riotous acts of the South were the inventions of Northern radicals for partisan purposes.

A Caucus of Republican members of Congress was held Friday night, at which there was much comment on the feeling throughout the country on the new Democratic revolution. It was shown by letters received from all parts of the North, that the course of the Republicans is received with great enthusiasm, and that the responsible element of the Democratic party are returning to their Republican affiliations during the war. H. G. FISHER, of the Huntington district, was selected to represent Pennsylvania on the Congressional Committee.

ONE great peril through which the country has happily and safely passed has just been disclosed by Senator RANDOLPH. He says that General GRANT confessed a few years ago to having practically no respect for the Constitution or the Supreme Court, and that his ideas were that the army should rule the country. Just why the General did not put his views into practical operation, Senator RANDOLPH does not explain. So the Nation may stand agape, overwhelmed at the immensity of the great peril which by some overruling and inscrutable Providence has been averted.

THERE are some serious and bold charges of corruption made at Harrisburg, and the House owes it to its reputation that they should be withdrawn or disproved.

MR. BOWEN should be allowed his Committee to welcome and escort Gen. Grant across the continent, and he should also be made Chairman. When the average legislator is contented with such harmless amusement, at his own expense, why should he not be gratified?

CHALMERS, the Confederate brigadier, of Fort Pillow notoriety, wants to be investigated. He is banking after a first-class certificate of good character from the present Congress. What a bad reputation he must have!

GENERAL JOHN A. DIX died in New York, Monday night, at half past eleven o'clock.

CONGRESS. Thursday.—The Senate debated the Army bill for long space, being made by Mr. Reynolds, and Mr. In the House, Mr. Stephens desired to have the silver redemption bill taken up; various members argued for a vote on the bill, and Mr. Stephens spoke in behalf of the bill; the legislative bill was then taken up, and Mr. Kelly and Mr. Chalmers made political speeches.

Monday.—In the Senate, Mr. Bayard and Mr. Maxey spoke on the use of troops in elections. The time of the session was entirely consumed in the introduction of new bills; the total number presented was 1,385; there were several proposing an income tax; an immense number relating to the currency, and the currency; and there were several bills bearing on the Pacific Railroad, the public lands and river improvements.

LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 23, 1879. The event of the week was the reception given by the members of the Union League to Governor Henry M. Hoyt. The most popular districts in Russia have been placed under the control of Governor Generals, who are clothed with absolute power to have arrested whomsoever they please, and to inflict any penalties they choose on the people, utterly helpless under their despotic rule.

The action of the majority in Congress shows a pretty unanimous Democratic desire to link the tariff and finances of the country. The tariff in which the country is settling down to peaceful pursuits, and the bright prospects for all kinds of business, is a great annoyance to the Democratic party.

SECRETARY SCHURZ has completed negotiations with Chief Morse, and the President has set aside a very large reservation in Washington Territory for Moors and his people, with such Indians as may affiliate with them, and such other Indians as the Secretary of the Interior may send to the reservation.

Two coal miners were arrested at Conowingo, Thursday night, for inciting to riot. Anroona is putting in a strong claim to be selected as the site for the coming State Fair. In Blair county there are already sixteen candidates for Sheriff and eight for Probationer.

A party of apples traveling through Northumberland county last week stole a little child named Celia Hoary. Incarceration have become so plentiful that Lancaster took the matter to the city has felt compelled to offer a reward for them.

A tramp named John Burns was recently found dead in a barn in Conowingo, York county, and upon him was discovered over \$2 in money and a certificate of deposit of \$150 signed by Eakman & Hatbarn, bankers, of Lancaster.

A fire broke out in the large planing mill of H. A. Early & Co., Williamsport. The flames first broke out in the planing mill, and spread to the adjoining furniture factory of Hubert & Markay, the largest factory in the city. Both buildings were entirely consumed. Hubbard & Markay's loss is \$30,000; insurance \$25,000. Early & Co.'s loss is \$150,000; insurance \$100,000. The fire originated from a hot box in the part of the building used as a box factory.

A man from Chambersburg, named April 17th, 1879, in the name of Stanley, the wife murderer, hanged in the jail yard to-day, was carried to the scaffold in a blanket, the loss of blood consequent on his attempt at suicide Monday rendering him weak. On the scaffold he was seated in a chair during the process of pinning. He made no response to the question whether he had anything to say. He was then placed upon the stand, the rope adjusted and he dropped off. Slender protest his innocence.

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EVERY GENERAL Communist paraded the streets of Chicago Friday. About 400 of the paraders carried arms. A Catholic priest, who had been seen logging to Elizabeth, Quebec, while returning from Quebec Friday afternoon, was arrested and six of the men were drowned.

LEADERS citizens of Syracuse, N. Y., have tendered Minister White a public dinner previous to his departure for Berlin. He has signified his acceptance of the invitation, and the matter of the city has felt compelled to offer a reward for them.

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DRESS GOODS! POWELL & CO. Are now prepared to exhibit their SPRING STOCK OF DRESS GOODS. Which comprises everything NEW, FASHIONABLE and DESIRABLE to be found in the market. AT EXCEEDINGLY LOW PRICES! THEY INVITE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THEIR DRESS TRIMMING SILKS. In a great variety of Stripes, Brocades, and Plain Colors. Towanda, Pa., April 23d, 1879. Seiberm, Binmar, &c. Successors to McIntyre & Russell, Dealers in HARDWARE! STOVES AND TINWARE. Main Street, TOWANDA, PA. MARBLEIZED MANTELS! REDUCED PRICE LIST FROM January 1st, 1879! GOODS ARE CHEAPER THAN THEY HAVE BEEN FOR TWENTY YEARS! Plain Mantels, Complete \$18.00 Extra Fine 20.00 Granite Monuments 180.00 Suitable for Crown Pieces 8.00 Ex. Fine 10.00 \$21 would recommend especially the Beautiful COLUMBIAN MARBLE, and far more durable than this class; will not crack or discolor. A. W. AYERS, 412, 441, 446 and Granite Yard 458, 460 462 East Water Street, ELmira, N. Y.