The Pittsburgh Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1865.

SOUTHERN DEFERENCE FOR THE CIVIL LAW.

The Augusta (Ga.) *Transcript*, of the 29th ultimo, contains extended editorial comments on a late decision of the United States Circuit Court for Vermont, which, among many whole some suggestions, makes some which are provocative of criticism, as thus:

"The United States Courts begin to speak. We hail their decisions. They have always been a bulwark for private right against hasty and oppressive legislation. Judge Smalley's decision is unquestionably law, as framed in accordance with the whole tone and the express provisions of the Constitution of the United States. There are other questions, besides the important one now involved, which await the adjudication of the Courts, and in whose settlement the Southern people are deeply concerned. The whole matter of confiscation, when a party has been duly convicted of treason, the occupancy of abandoned lands; the sale of property for taxes, in cases where the extension of military lines rendered it utterly impracticable for the owner to represent his property; the claims of widows, orphans and non-combatants for indemnification, for property alienated or destroyed; the sphere of military commissions and the limitations of martial law; the efficacy of Presidential pardons and the extent of the powers delegated by the States to Congress; the Constitutional rights and obligations of the States in the Union; how many such subjects, embracing every civil and political interest of the people, yet await the high arbitrament! After the largest warfare of history, we may expect the era of its most celebrated causes."

Our contemporary fails to remember which side occasioned the necessity for the interruption of the civil law in this country, and made a stern use of the powers of war, indispensable to the national existence. For seventy years, with slight interruptions, the democratic party ruled. At no time in all that long series of years, was that party without control in one of the co-ordinate branches of the government. Most commonly it had possession of them all. It either had the power of framing what laws it would, of dictating what policies it preferred, or of saying what laws should not be passed and what policies should not be adopted.

In these facts that arrogance which characterized the democratic party during the last decade of its dominance, had its roots. In the pride of power, and of confidence in its continuance, that party came to consider the government by a sort of primogeniture, its constitutional and indefeasible inheritance. It exalted itself immeasurably, until it really felt and acted as if it was the country, and beside it there was none else that had a right to be heard and respected in public affairs.

The Southern leaders ruled the democratic party. Their sway over it was absolute and imperious as over the slaves on their plantations. Whomsoever they would, they pulled down; and whomsoever they would, they raised up. If a public man, among the democrats of the North, by independence in thought or action, which they construed into waywardness or unreliability, incurred their displeasure, he presently disappeared from the steepest their bidding, and was seen no more. Aspiring young men, who, in the giddiness of immaturity and of bewilderment in the excitement consequent on a first participation in the management of affairs, mistook elevation to office for real success in life, made haste to propitiate by sycophantic adulation and menial subserviency the Southern arbiters of their destiny.

What the South wanted, it obtained. Sometimes, indeed, there was considerable chaffering about the terms of compliance, Northern sentiment had to be misdirected or corrupted. The way had to be smoothed; but the result was sure. If a barrier had been erected, by the wisdom of the Revolutionary fathers, to the encroachments of caste and privilege, it was laid low. Had a wall been built up for the defence of Liberty, either a breach was made in it for the march of Slavery, or it was utterly demolished and removed out of its place. The one colossal figure in our politics, became Slavery, with its horrid ornaments of manacles and chains, whips and thumb-screws, attended almost *en masse* by the Democratic party.

It was this that drew from Mr. Toombs, when this vast authority was manifestly passing out of his grasp and the grasp of his Southern associates, the expiring taunt, "We have ruled the country, and we have ruled it well." This was the ground on which Mr. Stephens planted himself in that grandly historic speech he made just as the war-cloud rolled down upon the land, and in which he not only asserted, but demonstrated beyond the possibility of disproof that the South had experienced no wrongs at the hands of the North.

Now, we do not deny that much of the prosperity of the country—of its increase in numbers, power and wealth—is due to the Democratic party. It has done many things wisely and well. But much that it claims as the ripe result of its sagacity, tact and prudence, has flowed from rocks far deeper down in the depths of society than is the province of any party to penetrate. None are all evil, and that saving clause covers the Democratic party.

The great crime of the Democratic party, after its base compliances to slavery, was manifested in that untamed ferocity with which it met the fact that it had lost the confidence of the people and was ill-suited to be permanently elected from the seats of government. Accustomed to have its repeated triumphs at the polls met in that proper submission to the popular will which is essential to free institutions, they had not learned to submit themselves. A verdict against them sounded in their ears like a revolt. They resented it as such. A flush of indignation passed over their countenances, and as they could no longer rule, they would do what they could to ruin the country. Hence the war, and those measures of repression of which our colemporary complains. It forgets that the government was seized by the throat, and the attempt made to run a polygnard to its heart. It censures those measures of self-defence, which, though not warranted by the civil Law, are warranted by Necessity, and are essential to the maintenance of civil order.

The North is anxious as the South can be for the disuse of military rule in all parts of the country. But that can only be accomplished by that due submission to the laws which the South is slow to make. It has yet the smoke of battle on its garments, and the scent of blood in its nostrils. Some little space must be given, for vast passions, which have swept society as waves do the bosom of the sea, to subside and be at peace.

Gen. Banks, a day or two ago, gave great offence to the democrats of the city of New York, by declaring, in a political speech, made from the steps of a Fifth Avenue mansion, that that "metropolis was the last stronghold of the rebellion, and that the defeat of the democracy there was a necessary corollary to the surrender of Lee's army." However unpalatable that statement may be, the whole body of loyal people throughout the Union feel it to be true.

During the third year of the war we chanced to be stopping at a New York hotel. A man of prepossessing appearance and gentlemanly address, having a portfolio under his arm, approached us and asked, "will you buy a portrait of McClellan?" The reply was, "we have not now as profound an admiration of that officer as we had." Said the stranger, "Perhaps, then, you will take a portrait of General Grant?" A conversation ensued, in which we gathered that the intelligent vender of pictures was an Englishman who had traveled in pursuit of his vocation all over Europe, making it pay expenses, and had just entered in like manner on a tour of observation in this country. Perceiving our preference for Grant, he took a hint and became confidential. Said he, "I have sold pictures all through this city, principally among the shippers, merchants and bankers. I have sold fifty of McClellan for one of Grant. If I had a good portrait of Lee, I could sell fifty of them for one of McClellan. This is essentially a Southern city. Its feelings and principles are all on the side of the rebels."

As the war turned many of the citizens of New York are anxious to conceal the fact that disloyalty was about as prevalent, as open and as offensive there as at Charleston. But the fact has entered into the history of the times and cannot be got out.

"Go in Finnegans."

Some of our Irish fellow-citizens, of the Fenian persuasion, had a little festivity in St. Louis a few days since, and when the affair was well under way, they forgot themselves so far as to send for Major General Frank P. Blair, with the purpose of drawing a speech from him. The General was found just at the conclusion of a dinner party, which had not been conducted on strict temperance principles, and to put a fine point upon it, he was not precisely in condition to confine himself very closely to one subject. He concluded, however, that he would go and make the boys a speech, notwithstanding the advice of some of his friends, among them General Sherman, that he had better postpone his remarks on the great Fenian question until some other occasion should arise. Arrived at the hall, where the sunburst glowed and the shamrock bloomed, he was presented to the audience with the usual flattering observations, and drawing himself up to his full height, his countenance wearing a look of inexpressible solemnity, he reared at the top of his voice:

"Finnegans! I'm with you!"

The mercurial Irishmen, dashed a little by the apparent mistake of the General, in addressing them by a name they had not called themselves, and looking on his broad declaration that he was with them as all right, interrupted him with a tremendous round of applause. Poising himself as if to meet a great emergency, he continued:

"But mind, I tell you, you have a big contract on hand, and Old Ireland is away across the ocean. But when you get your ships, and have them loaded with cannon and things, and sail down New York harbor, I'll go out there at Sandy Hook, and take off my hat, and say with all my heart—good-bye Finegans! And when I think it's about time you had touched the sod over there, I'll give you my prayers, and say—Go in, Finegans!"

At this point there was an another interruption, and one not altogether of excessive approbation. General Blair was tumultuously told that they were not Finegans, but Fenians, and after apologizing for his mistake by saying he had been down South so long he had forgotten the names of things, the hero gracefully retired.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

The Applause at the Copperhead Meeting.—When the name of Robert E. Lee, recently the leader of the rebel army, was mentioned by a speaker at the Cooper Institute meeting on Saturday evening, it was received with vigorous cheers. Mr. Lee is now in charge of a little college in Virginia, and obviously those cheers were not called forth by anything connected with his present position. Neither were they occasioned by any admiration of his personal character; for, although we believe him to be an amiable gentleman, there is nothing in this fact to recommend him to the especial plaudits of the Northern copperhead faction. Evidently, then Mr. Lee was cheered by the secessionists in the audience because he had been a rebel and had done his utmost to destroy the Union.—*New York Herald.*

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POLITICAL.

FOR CITY CONTROLLER.

JOHN McCARGO, of the 9th Ward,

will be a candidate for the nomination for City Controller, subject to the vote of the Union Citizens of Pittsburgh, at the forthcoming Primary Election. de5te

FOR MAYOR.

Col. D. W. MEGRAW,

Late of the 116th P. V., will be a candidate for Mayor of Allegheny City, subject to the Union nomination. no8dte

CITY CONTROLLER.

SAMUEL ALLINDER,

Clerk in the City Treasurer's Office, at the solicitation of his friends, will offer himself as a candidate for the above office, subject to a vote of the Union party at their coming primary election. no8dte

FOR MAYOR OF PITTSBURGH,

SAMUEL KILGORE,

Late of the 155th Pennsylvania Volunteers. no8dte

FOR MAYOR.

CAPTAIN JAMES McVICKER,

Of the Third Ward, ALLEGHENY, will be a candidate for Mayor, subject to a vote of the Union citizens of Allegheny City, at the ensuing primary election. no6-2d

FOR MAYOR.

CAPTAIN WM. HAYS, of the Seventh Ward

will be a candidate for MAYOR, subject to the nomination of the Union party of the city of Pittsburgh, to be held prior to the next city election. no5dte

THE MAYORALTY.—JAMES DONALDSON, Alderman of the Fourth Ward, at the solicitation of friends, has consented to allow his name to be used in connection with the next Mayoralty, and will be a candidate subject to the direct vote of the people, in accordance with the recommendation of the last Republican Municipal Convention. oct25-tu

MEETINGS.

Office Citizens Insurance Co., Pittsburgh, Dec. 4, 1865.

AN ELECTION FOR FIFTEEN DIRECTORS of this Company, to serve during the ensuing year, will be held at this office, on MONDAY, the 18th inst., between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M. de4-2wd WM. A. SHEPARD, Secretary.

AMUSEMENTS.

OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee & Manager, MISS ANNIE EBERLE.

Last night but three of the beautifull and accomplished commedienne

MISS BLANCHE DE BAR,

Who will appear as WIDOW CHEERLY in the three act comedy of the SOLDIER'S DAUGHTER, WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 6th, will presented Cherry's inimitable 3 act comedy of the

SOLDIERS DAUGHTER.

Widow Cheerly.....Miss Blanch De Bar.
Dance.....Little Lizzie.

To conclude with Sefton's speciality

JONES' BABY.

Thanksgiving Afternoon, the OTOBOKON. Admission: Parquette and Dress Circle 50 cents, Gallery 25 cents. Matinee Saturday afternoon. 25 cents admission.

PITTSBURGH THEATER.
Lessee and Manager.....WM. HENDERSON.

Prices of Admission—Dress Circle, 75 cts; Family Circle, 25 cts; Third Tier, 25 cts; Private Boxes $5,00; Single Seats, $1,25.

Doors open at 7 o'clock. Curtain rises at 7½.

Signal success of the beautiful artiste

MISS KATE REIGNOLDS,

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THIS (Wednesday) EVENING, will be presented the five act comedy entitled

PEG WOFFINGTON.

Peg Woffington.....
Sir Harry Wildair.....Miss Kate Reignolds

Introducing the song of the Cruiskeen Lawn.

Overture.....Orchestra

To conclude with

A GHOST IN SPITE OF HIMSELF.

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Music by ECKLES; Figures by Colonel JAMES SCOTT. de4

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First Premium for best Manufacturing Machine at Wisconsin State Fair.

First Premium for best Manufacturing Machine at Lawrence Co. Fair, Pa.

First Premium for best Machine for general purposes, at Lawrence Co. Fair, Pa.

First Premium for best Family Machine at Bucks Co. Fair, Pa.

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First Premium for best Manufacturing and Family Machine at Springfield Fair, Ohio.

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