The Pittsburgh Gazette

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1867.

THE Iowa Republican majority will exceed thirty thousand.

THE Republicans of Ohio are in good spirits, and their watchword is "no steps backward!" They learned long ago that the Confederates often win in the first day of a battle, but never fail to get a flogging in the third day's fight.

SOME journals hold that the recent elections kill the threatened impeachment of the President. That is a mistake. The President's official acts were not wiped out of history by the elections. If he merited the disgrace contemplated the causes yet remain, and Congress must discharge its duty towards the people.

THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH is going the rounds:

"It may not be generally known that General Sheridan is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, all of whom are styled "Comrades;" hence it will be seen how appropriately he addressed the torchlight gathering at Boston as "Comrades."

General Sheridan is not a member of that patriotic order, although we heard him say that his sympathies and best wishes were with the organization.

SECOND ASSISTANT ENGINEER GEO. F. SAWYER, is on trial at Portsmouth, Virginia, before a court martial, for saying, in a political discussion, that President Johnson ought to be impeached. It is to be hoped Mr. Johnson kept a copy of the Constitution at the time he swung around the circle and distributed it for preservation, and if so he might be induced to look over it and cite that portion by which a soldier or sailor is deprived of his right to express his opinion on any political issue.

GOV. SWAN'S militia will cost Maryland three quarters of a million this year. The State is small and burdened with debt. There is no war or fear of insurrection, and the *Press* says:

"Why should armed men be drilling from morning till night within her borders, and disciplining the land with their heavy tramp!"

Perhaps it is that there was no demand for Confederate gray, and that Gov. Swan, or some of his friends, had a stock on hand and wished to dispose of it.

SIDE ISSUES.

No one cause contributed so much to the losses sustained by the Republicans at the recent election field in this State as side issues. These were uncommonly numerous, and were pressed with a zeal amounting to unflinching tenacity. Far be it from us to depreciate the absolute importance of the matters on which these diversions occurred, or to impugn the motives of the men who made them. They gave unmistakable evidence of earnestness. No doubt their sincerity was equal to their enthusiasm.

The Workingmen's movement resulted in serious damage to the Republican interest, as it was designed to do by the men who were most influential in imparting direction to it. We are not of the number of those who believe that the interdependencies of Capital and Labor have been adjusted as impartially as they ought to be. At present, and in important particulars, Labor has decidedly the worst of it. If we were to enter upon specifications upon this point we should differ widely from the self-constituted champions of the Workingmen; possibly from most of the Workingmen likewise. But it is not our immediate purpose to enter upon this discussion, whatever may be our inclination and opportunity hereafter. Be it sufficient to say that we heartily endorse the late address of the Executive Committee of this county, that "all class legislation shall be abolished." Concurring in this, we dissent from the numerous items of class legislation which the Workingmen urge in their own behalf. What can be done by just and general legislation bearing alike on all classes, to ennoble and dignify Labor, to secure proper rank and remuneration for it, and to make it obligatory on all to the easement of those who carry excessive burdens, we shall always, and under all conceivable circumstances, be ready to help do. But, we have a deep and abiding faith that the Republican party, whatever may have been its short-comings in any respects, has done more for the promotion of the rights and interests of Labor than all the other parties that now exist or ever have existed in this country.

Then the License question was made to inflict great injury on the Republican party. The Temperance men pitched into that party or its candidates either because it had enacted some laws which they regarded as too latitudinarian, or had enforced certain laws according to a liberal interpretation of their letter and spirit. The Liquor men pitched into the Republican party under the accusation of puritanism, austerity and bigotry. Each of these factions pointed to the same things to justify their respective impeachments. Of course, these conflicting deductions were not both legitimate and well-founded. Either one or the other was totally mistaken, or else both were, to certain degrees, unjust and unsustainable.

In Philadelphia the Sunday-car question operated powerfully against the Republicans. For several years many of the inhabitants of that city have urged the passage of a law authorizing the horse-road companies to run cars on Sunday; or, at least, the submission of the matter to the decision of the people of that municipality on a direct vote. Republican leaders, from time to time, have given assurances that the law demanded should be enacted; but these promises have not been fulfilled. From the Sabbatarians so powerful an opposition has been maintained that the representatives of Philadelphia in the Legislature have been overawed, insomuch that they have not dared to authorize what is done in Pittsburgh and every other large town in the Union except Philadelphia, regularly every Sunday. It is probable, moreover, that the result produced by this question at the late election is but the prelude of more to follow, unless the demand for the running of cars on all the days of the week shall be acceded to. The Sabbatarians have rights of conscience in this matter; but so have the Liberals. The obligations of the Sabbatarians to respect the convictions of the Liberals, measured from the political stand-point, are just as weighty as the obligations of the Liberals to respect the convictions of the Sabbatarians. Before the laws, all men are equals, no matter what may be the differences among them of race, color, condition or religion.

In addition to these side issues many of the Republicans of Philadelphia evinced a pride of locality most prejudicial to Republican ascendency. With three Judges of the Supreme Court already numbered among their immediate fellow-citizens, they were resolved to obtain a fourth by a flagrant breach of party fealty. They deluged the Commonwealth with circulars in favor of Mr. SEARWOOD, and doubtless voted for him as they urged others to do. Now, we are far enough from holding that Republicans are bound to vote for bad men whenever such happen to get on their tickets. We have steadily inculcated a contrary practice. If any Republican, in this county or elsewhere, at the late election, or any other occasion, voted for a bad man, he did not do so at our instance or request. We have avowed that it was always the duty of each Republican to scratch candidates he believed not to be fair men for the places they were running for. This is the best check the masses of the party have upon nominating conventions. This we invariably do, judging for ourselves in each case, and leaving all others to judge for themselves. On this point we do not try to impose our judgment on our friends, nor do we allow them to impose their conclusions on us. But, these Philadelphia bolters had no plea of incapacity or unworthiness to urge honestly against Mr. WILLIAMS. In all personal and professional qualifications he is the full peer of Mr. SEARWOOD. In allowing the prejudices of locality to warp their judgments, they have sowed a crop of revenges which will spring up in due time and produce fruit they will have occasion to deplore.

No large number of men can work together harmoniously when cordial agreement is demanded from them on many questions. Great national parties, from the very necessity of the case, are restricted in the ends they will pursue. The Republican party was called into existence to resist the encroachments of slavery. By the progress of events it had forced on it the high duty of maintaining the integrity of the Union and imparting stability to personal liberty. This latter duty remains unaccomplished. It is the most pressing and fundamental duty that devolves on any political organization at this hour. The present opportunity lost, it may not be found again. The issue is, in itself, the most momentous that can claim the attention of a city. Whatever importance may attach in the minds of men to other issues, they can wait; while this must be determined now, one way or the other.

Before the election we pointed to the perils invoked upon the Republican cause by side issues. This we did not do in an unkindly spirit or for sinister ends. What we urged has, we submit, been justified by the result. Except the Philadelphians, who allowed their personal preferences or local prejudices to capture their judgments, none of the bolters from the Republican ranks have accomplished what they desired; but have encountered irrevocable loss. Shall not a larger measure of wisdom prevail in time to come?

THE RECENT ELECTIONS—SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

THE Parkersburg (W. Va.) *Times* referring to the vote on negro suffrage, says:

"The great measure will be triumphantly carried at no distant day, and the fair name of this country redeemed."

THE Richmond *Dispatch* is jubilant over the waning power of Republicanism and regrets that the "Democratic party had a load of prejudice to fight against." It encourages its readers in the hope that the reconstruction laws can now be defeated, and proposes to nominate General Sherman for President "upon his terms of reconstruction set forth in the paper signed by himself and General Johnston."

THE reverse has taken place in good season for the Presidential election of 1868. Let us strive and hope, and continue to make the good fight on the high and impregnable position of the Equal Rights of Man.—*Nashville (Tennessee) Times.*

BUT the result has little political significance.—*Warren (Ohio) Mail.*

SIX MILLIONS of people have spoken It is high time for a voice so potent to make itself heard. Our sons were led by thousands to fruitless slaughter,—yet it was dumb. Heaping up, to mortgage the industry and abrides the joys of ourselves and our children and our children's children, rose a mountain of debt—yet it was dumb.—*N. Y. World.*

THE war for the restoration of the Union has proved a failure.—*Chicago Convention.*

OUR OPPONENTS, as is well known, have in the past usually carried the State elections just previous to a Presidential election; and we are therefore safe in arguing and predicting the triumph of the party of freedom and progress next year. Then will come our turn for rejoicing.—*Springfield (Ill.) Journal.*

THE Abolitionists have been whipped, said the Democracy after Bull Run. The Abolitionists can never conquer the South, said Democracy when Lee knocked at the gates of the capitol. The Abolitionists have been defeated, said Democracy when Pope was worsted. The Abolitionists will never triumph over our Southern brethren, said Democracy after every reverse. The Abolitionists have been repudiated, said Democracy in 1863. The Abolitionists are overcome, says Democracy now. But there were two Vicksburgs, two Atlantas and two Richmonds. Rebels and Copperheads had theirs when Grant stumbled over Vicksburg, Sherman was blockaded at Atlanta, and various other Generals were turned back from Richmond. The Optionists had theirs when all three in succession fell. History repeats itself.—*Albany Journal.*

PRESIDENT JOHNSON remains entirely calm under the pressure of continued misfortune, and received the congratulations of General Sherman and his other friends with the simple remark that the elections prove his confidence in the people not misplaced.—*Boston Post.*

DEFEAT does not disarm. The most important victories have always followed the greatest defeats. It is only necessary to a powerful party that the causes of failure should be clearly seen and promptly recognized. We see nothing to change in our principles. They are founded upon the unchanging and everenduring basis of truth. They will stand as long as the reasons on which they rest. In 1862 the country was swept by Democratic gains far greater than those recently obtained, and then, as now, some of the faint-hearted were scared and were dismayed; but the great truths of freedom, written deep in the popular heart, were mighty in the face of defeat, and they prevailed. Once again we have met with disaster, but we shall come forth from it purer, stronger, and more victorious than ever.—*North American and Gazette.*

THE emancipation proclamation of 1863 was an ultra-Radical measure. It was followed by anti-Radical victories. The reconstruction measures of Congress are Radical measures; they have been followed by Democratic gains in the political field; but it does not follow that the Republican party, having hold of the plow, should look back as some timid folk may advise. On the other hand it should furnish incentive for renewed and united effort. The columns should be closed up. The stragglers should be forced to fight or be treated as deserters.—*Chicago Republican.*

THE little gale of wind that blew on Tuesday last has had the effect of dispersing the mists and clearing the atmosphere. Wise men of all political parties, whatever their disappointments or whatever their rejoicings, are beginning to see more distinctly than they did the precise condition of things. * *

In the first place the President, whose conduct has frequently been such as to excite the fears of the republic rather than its trust, has exercised a rare discretion in not making a speech, which was expected of him last evening.—*Evening Post.*

WE now speak of the necessity of comprehending once for all the overshadowing importance of the great national issues, and of learning that it is our duty to keep them alone in view, and to turn neither to the right hand nor to the left until they are settled.—*Boston Advertiser.*

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AN AUTUMN SUGGESTION.

Now, as many fogs arise and searching winds commence to blow; now, as the human body exhausts like inanimate nature by the heats of summer begins to wilt and droop; now, are the elements at whose mercy we are to be tossed, at whose mercy we are to be tossed, at whose mercy we are to be tossed,