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EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Muscular Senators.

From the Independent. We made a few remarks a week or two since on the singular statement of Mr. Parson, in the North American Review, that human nature in New England was undergoing a process of diminution. We have seen a tabular statement of the physical peculiarities of the present Senate of the United States, from which we extract the following facts in relation to the members of the present Senate who are of New England birth and education. Of twenty-one New Englanders in the Senate, the average height is five feet eleven and a half inches, their weight one hundred and seventy-six and a half avoirdupois, the girth around the chest thirty-eight and three-quarter inches. These characteristics give no indications of the diminishing process spoken of by Mr. Parson, when compared with the average European, whose height is five feet, eight and a half inches, weight one hundred and forty-five pounds avoirdupois, and size of head twenty-two inches. Senators may be said, however, to be exceptional men—as they are; but then in point of physical characteristics they represent the classes who are rather under than over the average standard. The tallest member of the present Senate is Cowan, of Pennsylvania; but after the fourth of March that lofty honor will belong to Stewart, of Nevada, who overtops Sumner by three-quarters of an inch. The heaviest member is Van Winkle, of western Virginia while the broadest chest belongs to Pomeroy, of Kansas, that sturdy radical measuring forty-four inches, and at the same time carrying upon his broad shoulders one of the biggest heads in the Senate. Grimes, Nesmith, Pomeroy, and Van Winkle have heads which measure twenty-four inches. The smallest State in the Union sends as her Senatorial representative the smallest man; he is but five feet and nine-tenths of an inch in altitude, and weighs but one hundred and seventeen pounds all told. The Senatorial heads have a remarkable uniformity of size, the largest measuring but twenty-four inches and the smallest but twenty-two. Lane, of Kansas, carried the smallest head. It measured only twenty-one inches. These statistics of the personal characteristics of the Senate show us very clearly, if we needed any proof of the fact, that there are no giants in that august body at present; and we may congratulate ourselves that such is the case for giants, except for the purpose of a show, are anything but servicable creatures to have in a house. It may be interesting to the public to know that the shortest member of the Senate, Davis, of Kentucky, is also the noisiest—nature having bountifully compensated a lack of height by an unnatural length of tongue.

From the Tribune. We learn from our telegraphic reports the reason why the Senate bill for exchanging the six per cent. compound legal-tenders into three per cent. demand notes was defeated the other day in the House. It was merely a preliminary movement of the inflationists to stop contraction and get aloft another hundred millions of greenbacks. This interesting job was finished on Thursday. The House voted, 95 to 65, not to pay the six per cent. legal-tenders, but to substitute greenbacks for them. By thirty majority the House has broken away from its old financial advisers, and embarked on the sea of "wild cat" banking. We always desire to understand the precise situation of affairs, and thus we are, in view of recent developments on this subject, glad to see this vote and to understand the ground of it. If Congress or the House have got any specific views on the management of the currency different from those of Mr. McCulloch, it will be a relief to the country to have them developed.

Not in the shape of sporadic votes, but in intelligent discussion. Let us have an intelligible exposition of the policy which Congress or the House desire to adopt, in lieu of that recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury, and hitherto sustained by them. If there is an antagonistic policy, as there seems to be, let us know precisely what it is. Give us the particulars. Let in light upon this subject, so vital to the business and industrial interests of the entire nation. It is of immense consequence that the country should know what is before them. And they do not want votes merely; they want views clearly defined, and measures intelligently shaped and expounded. If the National Legislature is really in the hands of the paper-money men, and they intend to leave Mr. McCulloch in the lurch, and to pursue a policy leading to bankruptcy, let us know it, and let us know their precise measures.

Let them declare themselves in the face of day by open and exhaustive discussion. If we have got profounder financiers in Congress than have hitherto come to the surface, let them expound. We grope in the dark ever since that twenty majority vote in the House, now increased to thirty, in opposition to contraction. The country does not want to be led blindfold down a precipice; it wants its way illumined by the new lights of finance which are, apparently, judging from Thursday's proceedings, coming out from under the bushel where they have been hidden.

If Congress is going to reject the principle of moderate contraction, let us know what we are to have instead. Show us where we stand. If there is anything in this matter beyond the necessities of rotten banks, or the renewal notes of bankrupt debtors, we should like to see it defined. No solvent man, no solvent bank, no solvent community, can honestly object to the principle of a steady contraction of the currency until we reach specie payments, or need fear its results. It is the bankrupts and the speculators only who have anything to apprehend from the application of this touchstone of national and individual solvency.

The see-saw debate and voting in the House on Thursday afternoon illustrate the stability of opinion which, on financial topics, distinguishes our legislators. Mr. Hooper's bill, as reported, was a bill to retire the compounds, plus a section to repeal the law now authorizing the \$4,000,000 per month contraction. Mr. Hooper does not believe in flying his kite without a respectable tail; his bill therefore proposed to issue in place of the compound notes certificates at 3-65 interest—not a measure which commends itself to us as sound, but a miracle of prudence in comparison with what the House finally adopted. Northwestern finance, in the person of Mr. Wilson, objected to the extravagance of this plan, on the ground that it involved a yearly payment of three or four millions of interest. It is a

generous charity to suppose that Mr. Wilson, and they who follow his lead, honestly believe in this last, at the present moment. We concede the necessity which lies upon them to advance an argument that shall have the merit of plausibility. Mr. Stevens, however, is much too intrepid a legislator on finance to allow himself to be interrupted in the pursuit of his policy by any such trivialities as arguments. Believing in greenbacks as a national blessing, he naturally thinks it impossible to have too many blessings. A promise to pay that is repudiated is, in his eyes, as good as a promise meant to be kept; if anything, is a little better. The highest stretch of financial virtue is to issue a billion of national promissory notes, and the true policy to sustain the national credit is to make it impossible to pay the debts we have already incurred. Mr. Stevens' view of the country's future is like that of the bankrupt spendthrift who complacently congratulated himself on his hopeless insolvency, and besought admiration for his enormous debts as the evidence that he had once enjoyed unlimited credit.

The House did not seem very certain whose lead it would follow. One-half hour it is half conservative with Mr. Hooper; the next it follows Mr. Parson, and the next it follows Mr. Stevens. If the policy of \$100,000,000 of legal-tender notes, by an absolute majority of 40. Then in a moment of dyspeptic remorse it hesitates, and rejects the whole bill for the sake of the second clause prohibiting the paltry \$4,000,000 of monthly contraction which the law now permits. Soothing its conscience by striking out the repealing section, it finally passes the bill, and the country waked up on Thursday morning to find the greenbacks of considerably multiplied in number and reduced in value. Gold on Thursday took a jump on the rumor of this bill becoming a law, of 2 per cent. above the market rate. The policy of indefinite extension for which the insolvent North-western clamors is to be pursued steadily in Congress, we see no reason why this most volatile of metals may not again reach the highest point it touched during the war. If it does not, it thanks to Mr. Stevens and his clients, the national banks.

The Ultimatum of Congress—Progress of the Great Revolution. From the Herald. Senator Reverdy Johnson's support at the eleventh hour of the Reconstruction bill of Congress is a remarkable incident and a very encouraging fact. Every principle of this bill, from first to last, Senator Johnson has actively resisted. He has been a leading advocate of the President's views and measures of Southern restoration, and from his great reputation as a constitutional lawyer and a Southern conservative, this Maryland Senator stands deservedly high in the President's confidence. When, therefore, on the decisive test in the Senate upon this radical Southern Reconstruction bill, we find this prominent leader of the opposition coming over to the Republican side, we may say not only that it is a very remarkable, but a very significant incident. His reasons for this step are certainly very suggestive. He said that if "he could have his wish he would immediately receive the Southern Restoration bill, and under the President's policy" into this Chamber. As matters now stand, he felt bound to "acquiesce with the majority in anything that held out a hope, however faint, of accomplishing that object," that "he would vote for the bill because he saw in it a mode of rescuing the country from the perils that now threaten it, and not because he approved it in any particular."

The good example of Senator Johnson, let us hope, foreshadows the course of President Johnson. The Senator sees that further resistance is useless; that the contest is decided; that Congress has the case absolutely in its hands, and is prepared to remove even the President, should he persist in blocking its path. He also sees that Southern intractables have put a check upon Northern concessions, and that since the defiant and contemptuous rejection by all the excluded States of the pending Constitutional amendment, harsher terms may be exacted by Congress with the full approval of the North. It is the ancient Roman tradition of the Sibylline leaves, over again. The old woman came first with her nine books of the Roman destinies to Tarquin the Second and offered them for three hundred pieces of gold. He denied her, whereupon she burned three of the books, and still asked her full price for the remaining six, and next for the remaining three, when her full price was paid. Senator Johnson sees this, and sees, too, that the best thing for the Administration and the South is to accept this bill, and under its provisions get the excluded States back into Congress as soon as possible. It would be a master-stroke of patriotism and policy on the part of President Johnson to take the hint from Senator Johnson and fall in with the resistless current of "manifest destiny" upon this Southern question; for he may thus place himself right before Congress and the country, and still make his administration a great success upon the all-important money question.

Louis Napoleon's abandonment of his grand Mexican idea points out the way of wisdom to President Johnson. The imperial Mexican programme was a far more dazzling game in the outset than Mr. Johnson's Southern policy in its best days, and it was a master-stroke of projected American balance of naval and commercial power, Napoleon has made a much greater sacrifice of pride and ambition to the law of necessity than is required of Mr. Johnson. It is only the going of Mahomet to the mountain on fluting that the mountain will not come to Mahomet. We would also impress these facts upon the ruling minds of the Southern States—that they no longer live in the age before the flood, when men existed over nine hundred years, and that there has been a deluge and a great revolution from the old order of things; that the honesty of State sovereignty is defunct; and that with slavery all civil and political disabilities on account of race or color, "excepting Indians not taxed," have been or must be wiped out. We would also advise the responsible leading men of the dominant white race of the South that while, as they stand, they are powerless to help themselves or obtain help from abroad, the door opened by Congress will usher them into a new era of prosperity, wealth, and power.

It is curious to note how the accidents of the war and the chances of rising politicians have resulted in the work of this great political revolution. A decisive defeat of the Rebels at the first Bull Run might have saved Southern slavery in the collapse of the Jeff. Davis Confederacy. Had McClellan succeeded at Richmond there would most likely have been no emancipation proclamation from President Lincoln. Had Andrew Johnson, when called to take his place, convened Congress for the legislative work of Southern reconstruction instead of undertaking it himself, the States concerned would doubtless have been restored upon a half-way compromise on negro suffrage. Had those who followed the example of Tennessee, they would be now in Congress on the same terms.

Had the Democrats in the House voted for this last bill as it came from the Senate, they

would have secured to the leading Rebels the privilege now denied them, of assisting in reorganizing their respective States. As our failures in the war in defense of slavery brought about the extinction of slavery, so all our failures in half-way plans of restoration have worked out a full and decisive settlement on the basis of civil and political equality. All these facts should incline President Johnson to follow the example of Senator Johnson, especially as any further resistance to Congress will be utterly futile and exceedingly dangerous to the Executive. The sooner he recognizes the necessities of the case the better it will be for himself, his Administration, the South, the North, the Treasury, and the general interests of the Union.

President Johnson and the Reconstruction Bill.

From the Times. The decision of the President, whatever it may be, in regard to the Reconstruction bill, will be chiefly important in its bearing upon his own position, and upon the fortunes of the South. The more than two-thirds vote by which the bill passed both branches of Congress places it beyond the reach of the veto. The most that can happen is temporary delay. To veto the measure openly would simply be to insure its enactment as law, irrespective of the President's hostility. To retain it in the Executive pocket, and so to smother it for the session, would be unequal and unavailing; since the Congress which is to assemble on the 4th of March would at once pass a similar law, and might possibly augment its harshness and stringency. For the sake of the South it is desirable that the contingency be obviated, which can only be done by an absolute settlement within the next few days. And for the sake of the President himself it is to be hoped that he will meet the issue immediately, whether his final decision be for or against the bill.

The principles upon which reconstruction is provided for, and the conditions to which it is subjected, differ so widely from those favored by the President, that his concurrence can scarcely be expected. He has not shown himself an adept in the art of conciliation, or a very earnest seeker after compromise. The question has reached a stage, however, in which the reaffirmation of his antagonism to Congress can avail neither himself nor the country. It is not necessary that he repeat his declared opinions or surrender his version of constitutional right and duty. He may adhere consistently to both, and yet find himself at liberty to follow Mr. Rev. Johnson in his acceptance of the inevitable. By no possibility can he gain aught by refusing to acquiesce in the action of Congress. He may intensify the feeling against himself, and may perhaps bring other burdens upon the South, but he can no more hope to give effect to his own views or to induce Congress to abate the exercise of its power. The unexpectedly large majorities on Wednesday placed these points beyond dispute.

Nor should the President forget the probable influence of his course upon the temper and policy of the South. Do what he may, the bill will go into effect. What he may say or do may nevertheless influence the Southern people for good or evil. They were misled by his advice into the rejection of the Constitutional amendment—a measure which, compared with this Reconstruction bill, was mildness itself. Again, they have exulted in his checks upon military authority, and have been encouraged by his language and acts to rely upon the intervention of the Supreme Court, intentionally or otherwise, therefore, he has incurred a responsibility from which he cannot escape, and the remembrance of this fact should not be without influence upon his treatment of the present bill. It is now possible for him to encourage the expectation that his views shall more or less affect the administration of the law—in which case much sullen defiance may be looked for in the South; or, on the other hand, by an unreserved acknowledgment of the power of Congress and the will of the loyal people, he may at the outset convince the South of the necessity of accepting the terms offered without more ado. To the South it is no longer a question of choice. The "dignity" which obstructed Governor Orr's path cannot save the present Governments from the operation of negro suffrage and the disability clause of the Constitutional amendment. The "passive resistance" and "masterly inactivity" which Southern Solons have inculcated as infallible prophylactics, will neither frustrate the Brigadiers and their commands nor save from disfranchisement a large and influential class. The provisions of the bill will be brought into play, happen what may. New Constitutions get provided, despite the disfranchisement and exclusion from the conventions of every prominent Rebel. The only open aspects of the question refer to the spirit in which these events shall be received and the disposition to be shown in relation to them. It is in connection with these points that the President should feel his responsibility. And it is in view of this responsibility, rather than in consideration of any other circumstance, that we trust the President will respect the action of Congress as a settlement of the reconstruction question, from which there is no appeal.

The Congressional Candidates in Connecticut.

From the World. The Congressional nominations on both tickets in Connecticut have now been made, and the campaign has commenced in earnest. The nominees in the districts are as follows: Democratic. 1. Richard D. Hubbard. 2. Cyrus Northrup. 3. Earl Martin. 4. Wm. H. Barnum. 5. P. T. Barnum. Radical. 1. Henry C. Denning. 2. Cyrus Northrup. 3. H. H. Starkeweather. 4. P. T. Barnum. The nomination of Richard D. Hubbard in the First District is almost equivalent to an election. He is one of the ablest lawyers and one of the most popular men in the State. He has been repeatedly urged to allow his name to be used in nomination, and, until this year, he has steadily refused. During the Rebellion he was what is called a "war Democrat," and the Republican party even claimed him; but, at any rate, his record is a consistent one, for he believed that the war was for the restoration of the Union, while his opponent, Henry C. Denning, now a rabid radical, wrote a letter in 1861 denouncing the unwarranted "invasion of States," and expressing other and similar sentiments which would have been satisfactory to Jeff. Davis himself. Mr. Julius Hotchkiss, the Democratic candidate in the Second District, is an energetic and successful business man, and the New Haven Journal and Courier (radical) says "his personal character is excellent," and personal character goes a great way in Connecticut. Mr. Earl Martin, of Killingly, and Mr. William H. Barnum, who is the candidate against Thomas T. Barnum in the Fourth District—are strong nominations, and will command full votes. The only nomination on the other side which is really a strong one is that of Professor Cyrus Northrup, of Yale College, who runs on

the radical ticket in the Second District. In the last Congressional election this district gave the radical nominee 1715 majority; but the year following, on the vote for Governor, this large majority was wiped out, and the Democrats carried the two counties composing the district by 1887 majority. The changes in the other districts, in a single year, are sufficiently striking to suggest the possibility that still more marked changes may occur this year. The following is the vote at the Congressional election in 1856:—

Table with 3 columns: Districts, Rad. (Rep.), Dem. (Dem.). Rows include 1st. Hartford and Tolland, 2d. New Haven and Middlebury, 3d. New London and Windham, 4th. Fairfield and Litchfield.

The above table shows the majority over the Democratic candidates; in the First and Second Districts there were 314 scattering votes, but in the four districts there is a clear radical majority of 11,153. A year later, in 1866, the vote in these districts for Governor were as follows:—

Table with 3 columns: Districts, Dem. (Dem.), Rad. (Rep.), Maj. (Majority). Rows include 1st. Hartford and Tolland, 2d. New Haven and Middlebury, 3d. New London and Windham, 4th. Fairfield and Litchfield.

The majorities to be overcome in the First and Third Districts are so small that it will not be surprising if the Democrats should carry every district but the Fourth; and to ticket, requires a change of but one vote in two hundred in the State. When radical majorities of more than eleven thousand are reduced to five hundred and forty-one in a single year, proper effort ought easily to reduce the five hundred and forty-one to a considerably less than nothing.

Congressional Reconstruction.

From the Nation. At the end of the session, Congress has undertaken in earnest the work of reorganizing the Southern States; and both Houses have passed bills designed to break up the Governments organized by the President, and to subject the Rebel States to military rule while new Governments are being organized upon the basis of universal suffrage. At the time of our present writing, the two Houses have failed to agree upon any precise measure; and although there is no doubt that they will agree upon something immediately, the bill will now be subject to the risk of a pocket veto. We are not without hope, however, that Mr. Johnson will for once be wise enough to resist the temptation to commit this act of folly, and will either sign or openly veto the bill.

We stated last week the reasons for our approval of the main features of the bill providing military government for the South. The condition of society there is so thoroughly unhealthy, and the forms of law are so systematically perverted into oppression, and so unshakably overridden when perversion so troublesome a process, that it is a mockery to refer any loyal man to an average Southern court for justice. The existing Governments of the Southern States were founded by military power, exercised in a totally unconstitutional manner by the President, who usurped the whole authority of the Legislature, and used his power conferred only for the purposes of war to establish institutions designed to be perpetual through times of peace. Delay has so strengthened these usurpations that they can be set aside only by a vigorous exercise of the same military power which set them up.

To effect this is the purpose of the "Military Bill," as it is commonly called; and with this purpose we heartily sympathize. On account of their origin in executive usurpation, their total exclusion of the colored people, and their practical exclusion of all loyal white men, we are opposed to any kind of recognition of the de facto governments at the South. We believe that the wickedness of their course thus far, atrocious as it has been in Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and elsewhere, is a mere trifle compared with what it would have been if Mr. Johnson's policy had been adopted by Congress; and we are unwilling that the work of reorganization should be in any degree entrusted to men who have shown such malignity and bigotry as the majority of Southern officials.

But we have felt anxious that it should appear not merely by speeches in Congress, but by the text of the law itself, that a measure so stringent, and in form so anti-republican, is purely transitional in its nature, and intended to pave the way with all possible speed to a reorganization of the States upon a democratic basis. Accordingly, in our judgment, the amendment offered by Mr. Blaine in the House, and substantially adopted by the Senate, greatly improved the bill. Nor do we suppose that this amendment would have excited any opposition but for its indiscriminate admission of disloyal men to the right of suffrage. This is a point of no small difficulty, since without such an administration of the law as cannot be hoped for while Mr. Johnson remains in office, it is vain to suppose that the loyal voters of the South will have a fair chance at the polls.

Their enemies are, at least, nearly as numerous, thoroughly organized, trained to political action, in possession of all the wealth of their States, and unscrupulous as to the means of victory. We believe that all these advantages will fall in with the long run, if they persist in maintaining unjust laws, and administering them as they now do. But we cannot wonder that Southern radicals, like Messrs. Stokes and Arnell, should be unwilling to adopt any system of government which puts their necks in present peril, no matter how confident they may be that it will work beneficially for their posterity.

Mr. Elliot's bill for the reconstruction of Louisiana is much harsher in its operation upon Rebels and Rebel sympathizers than the amendment to the Military bill, since it requires all voters to take the test-oath. This of course puts the government of the State of Louisiana into the hands of those who have exclusively been loyal, three-fourths of whom are colored people. This is too severe a rule not to be highly injurious if permanently maintained; and the probability is that when once established it would be kept up too long, and finally be broken down by wholesale perjury, as in Maryland, or nullified by the rising up of a new generation able to take any oath to their freedom from acts of disloyalty, and yet embittered by the exclusion of their parents and kindred. Months ago we urged that no plan of mere exclusion would avail to drive Rebels of power, and that the remedy should be sought in the opposite direction. We are still of that opinion, which has received strong confirmation from the total failure of the exclusive system in Maryland and Kentucky, and the acknowledged certainty of its failure in Tennessee, where it has owed all its limited success to the intense zeal of Governor Brownlow.

No plan can be devised by human wisdom for the organization of States having such discordant elements as those existing at the South, which will not be defective in its working. It is easy to say that a system which operates harshly upon Rebels should be preferred to one which fails to do entire justice to the loyal; but it must be remembered that the whole community will be injured by the undue depression of any of its parts, and that the loyal will gain no real advantage by an unfair monopoly of political power. The best solution that occurs to us is a middle path, by which the Government should be secured to the loyal citizens for the first year or two, but afterwards left to the operation of universal suffrage. Even this restriction would not be favored by us if we believed that Mr. Johnson would use the military power to organize and thoroughly protect the Southern loyalists; for every restriction gives rise to a bitterness of feeling which breeds trouble for years after its cause is removed. But with such a President as we have, the country must be content to stumble along, as it best may, over the difficulties of its path. If Mr. Johnson will execute the law, however grudgingly, he is not likely to be impeached. If he refuses to do so, the question of reconstruction will be speedily simplified by his removal from office.

In looking back upon the past, it is impossible not to be impressed with a deep sense of providential guidance in the various conflicts which have brought the American people, to such comparative unanimity in favor of justice towards the colored race. Every difficulty thrown in the way has but increased the popular determination to establish equal rights. Six years ago the North would have rejected any mild restrictions upon the spread of slavery as a final settlement. Four years ago it would have accepted peace upon the basis of gradual emancipation. Two years ago it would have been content with emancipation and equal civil rights for the colored people with the right of suffrage. One year ago a slight extension of the suffrage would have satisfied it. All these demands were in their turn blindly resisted, in a manner that reminds us of the vision of the old prophet, who saw "an evil spirit from the Lord" go forth to deceive the wicked King of Israel into his wretched ruin.

Now the nation has been brought up to the demand of absolute justice—nothing less, and nothing more. No confessions, no oppressions are sought to be imposed by the majority of the Republicans in Congress; but on equal justice they unanimously insist. Again the short-sighted folly of the Democratic party interposes to defeat this measure, more liberal than conquered people ever knew. Again the demand rises higher, and the amendment offered by Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, excluding a large class of Rebels from the ballot-box, is almost certain to prevail. Here we would gladly stop. We desire nothing in the way of punishment to be imposed upon the masses of the Southern people. But it may be the Divine decree that they shall not be saved the madness of themselves and their friends; and that they shall be placed under the yoke which they have done everything to invite.

If Mr. Johnson kills the measure of reconstruction now to be submitted to him, by depriving Congress of an opportunity to repeal it over his veto, the doom of the South is almost certain to prevail. Here we would gladly stop. We desire nothing in the way of punishment to be imposed upon the masses of the Southern people. But it may be the Divine decree that they shall not be saved the madness of themselves and their friends; and that they shall be placed under the yoke which they have done everything to invite.

Reconstruction in Congress.

From the Independent. The Reconstruction Committee reported a bill last week providing for the division of the Rebel States into districts, and the appointment of officers not below the rank of Brigadier-General to rule those districts, who are clothed with large powers for the maintenance of order therein until civil government shall be fully established. This bill passed the House by a large majority. It was a purely military measure. On Sunday morning the Senate passed the bill, but with a vitally important additional section, which radically changes its character, by providing for the ultimate reconstruction of the States on a civil basis. Whether the bill as amended can pass the House remains to be seen. Or, if it does pass, whether it will be by a majority sufficient to override the veto will be doubtful. Or, whether the President will veto it is strange to say, uncertain. We presume this combined military and civil measure will be treated as a substitute for the two bills of the New Orleans and the Reconstruction Committees, which simultaneously passed the House last week. As we write, the whole subject of reconstruction is passing the ordeal of Congressional action.

Though a long stride in the right direction, the measure, as it passed the Senate, is not all that could be desired. It secures the right of the freedmen to the elective franchise, only while the Rebel States are in a quasi-territorial condition, and the friends of the negro will never be satisfied with any scheme that does not place that right beyond contingency. They demand that it be incorporated into the Federal Constitution. The bill vests the appointment of the commanding generals of the districts solely with the President. There have been ominous outgivings that Mr. Johnson, alarmed at the cry for "impeachment" and the near approach of the Fortieth Congress, is trying to make terms with the radicals by "meeting them half way." We warn our friends to beware of the baited demagogue of Tennessee. Not insisting here that his repeated teachery to those who elevated him to office stamps him as utterly untrustworthy, we do say that the official who would go backward from his word as Andrew Johnson did from his pledge to Senator Trumbull respecting the Freedmen's Bureau bill is a "shyster," whose word no prudent man should for a moment trust. George III once deceived his minister, the elder Pitt. Under a severe pressure, the King went backward from his royal word. Never afterwards did Pitt trust him; and, knowing this, whenever he fixed his eyes upon him, his Majesty recoiled before his eagle glance. The historic incident does not quite meet the case; for we have no Pitts in Congress, and George III was a gentleman, never deserted his friends, and very rarely lied. But, if such leaders as we happen to have will follow the example of the great Commoner, they will not go far astray.

The Republican party is in a perilous position in regard to the subject of reconstruction. Let it take heed lest it were to let it upon the shoals of presidential aspirants or sacrifice it to the rivalries and jealousies of Congressional leaders. The recent course of certain radicals in the House gives ground for the suspicion that they are either currying favor with the President to get some office, or are unwilling that any plan should succeed unless it emanates from their minds. The people have their eyes upon these troublesome gentlemen, and will sink the brand of disapprobation into their foreheads as soon as they perceive that they

are impelled by ambition or personal pique, rather than inspired by principle and a broad patriotism. We assure the leaders of this country, who expect the Congress to do the only thing that is necessary to adopt a policy, and prove themselves competent to carry it into successful operation. Robert Walpole guided the affairs of England with unparalleled skill for a quarter of a century. Yet he was the most corrupt minister that ever lived. But when his hand relaxed, and he became feeble as well as corrupt, the people of England drove him from the helm, and summoned "the pilot that weathered the storm." Let us remind Congress that evidence tending to show incapacity to govern a country is far more damaging to a political party than positive proof that it has plundered it. We entreat our friends of the XXXIXth and the XLth Congress to cease their bickerings, adopt a wise policy, and enforce it promptly and vigorously, that the country may by and by have rest.

Advertisement for Wright's Tar Syrup. Includes text: 'Coughs, Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, Consumption, can be cured by using DR. WRIGHT'S TAR SYRUP.' Also includes testimonials and a list of druggists.

CITY ORDINANCES.

COMMON COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA. CLERK'S OFFICE, February 22, 1867. In pursuance of the annexed Resolution, the following bill, entitled...

Creating a Loan to pay certain deficiencies for the purchase of the Lansdowne Estate, and for other purposes, is hereby published in accordance with the act of Assembly, for public information. JOHN ECKSTEIN, Clerk of Common Council.

LEGAL NOTICES. IN THE ORPHAN'S COURT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA. Estate of WILLIAM W. SMITH, deceased.

Advertisement for Temple of Fashion Hats. Includes text: 'CHEAPEST AND BEST HATS', '40 NORTH 5th St. City!', 'Sixth St. BOURNE'. Also includes name 'GEORGE PLOWMAN, CARPENTER AND BUILDER'.