

SPiRiT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALISTS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED WEEKLY BY THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Afraid of Restoration.

From the Boston Post. The radical writers handle the restoration question only as party pettifoggers. Mr. Lincoln used precisely the right phrase when he announced the problem to be the restoration of the people of the Southern States to the Union.

But the radical leaders have been almost religiously careful not to employ the significant term restoration at all; they have used reconstruction in its stead. How can the autonomy of a great Union of States be reconstructed, save by the consenting action of every one of them?

And hence the steps taken to reconstruct after such a violent fashion are legitimately revolutionary. Thaddeus Stevens confessed that he was, and declared that all who took a part in the passage of these several Reconstruction laws knew that it was to be "out-side of the Constitution"—that is revolutionary.

The work of restoration is easy indeed, by the side of the arbitrary legislation entered upon by Congress. The entire body of the people of the South showed themselves ready for it, and received the enactment of General Grant, Senator Morton, and other radicals for their excellent dispositions.

The Union might have been restored by December, 1865; instead of that, we see to-day that to the three States of the South—Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas—to which the amendments to the Constitution were duly submitted as to integral States in the Union, Congress has forbidden the casting of an electoral vote for President in the election to be held this fall.

It is held up by the radical press as a stigma on the patriotism of the great party of the Union that it should have admitted to its National Convention leading Southern men who were actively engaged in the war against the Union.

Therein it exposes its real character. In its very accusations of its opponents it unwittingly publishes itself. How, pray, would it have these leading men of the South dead with their heads severed and placed on a platter?

The country looks at these things just as they are, and not as they are distorted and colored by the ingenuity of radical malice, about to be foisted off as its favorite purpose.

A Trying Time for Tammany—The Political King and the Prize Ring. Tammany is in trouble. Following the bent of the people of all countries in the present day, its wild Indians are ripe for revolution.

Seven or eight months ago, in the general and chaotic elections, the Tammany machine was all powerful, bore down every opposition, and carried its candidates into office by unprecedented majorities.

It obtained control of the judiciary, the Legislature, the several elective city departments, the Boards of Supervisors, Aldermen and Councilmen, and succeeded in placing one of its principal workers on the Police Commission.

In the midst of all this the unsettled, dissatisfied element inside the Tammany organization is working and working, and boding mischief. It will concentrate in opposition to the nomination of Hoffman for Governor, to which the leaders are pledged, and will accept any candidate, from Buffalo to Brooklyn, in order to defeat him.

The worst of the business is that the prize ring has separated from the political ring at the very moment when shoulder hitters are in demand and bruisers are beyond price. John Morrissey, who two years ago forced the nomination of Hoffman and demanded and received for himself the position of Congressman, now desires the Tammany honors and Democratic caresses.

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Either disfranchisement and disabilities were never necessary, or it is absurd to remove them now—but if, in the radical truth in the radical representations of the present condition of the Southern States, to its sudden removal, so soon after they were imposed, is an extorted confession that one of the main pillars of the radical policy is a rotten from the beginning.

Comments by the Tribune. The views and impositions of this journal touching amnesty and enfranchisement should by this time be well known.

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