

GEN. GRANT AND THE PRESIDENCY.

The Nation, one of the ablest Republican papers in the country, and one which is undoubtedly conducted upon a higher plane than any other of its political faith, has in its last issue a very strong article pointing out from a Republican standpoint, certain reasons why Gen. Grant should not be taken up in 1880 as his party's candidate for the presidency.

After a searching arraignment of the Democratic party for its unstable policy, especially with reference to the matter of finance, this paper proceeds to say: "But in spite of this unfortunate history, in spite of its follies, its excesses, and the incapacity of its leaders, it has, during the last ten years, been steadily recovering its old place in the government. In 1868, three years after the war, when General Grant entered the presidency, there were 63 Republicans in the Senate, and only 9 Democrats; there were 170 Republicans in the House, and only 66 Democrats. These proportions continued to change steadily during the ensuing eight years, until when General Grant went out of office, the House contained 107 Republicans and 184 Democrats, and the Senate 46 Republicans and 29 Democrats. Now the Democrats have a majority in both branches; but the change was most significant in the lower house, which is increased most frequently, and therefore most faithfully reflects popular sentiment."

The Nation then points out that this marked change was not produced by the entrance of the South upon the scene, but shows by a table published that the tide ran steadily against the Republican party in the Northern States during the eight years of Gen. Grant's administration. Taking the States of Indiana, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania, this table shows that while their representation in the lower house of Congress from 1868 to 1876 was 93 Republicans to 27 Democrats, it was, from 1874 to 1876, 38 Republicans to 81 Democrats.

These are very striking and instructive figures, and the transformation may well be characterized as remarkable. What brought it about? We let The Nation answer: "It was the manner in which the general government was carried on by General Grant and a small body of counselors who came to be known as the 'Senatorial Group.' It adds that the 'abuses which marked the administration of the internal affairs of the country, and more particularly the treasury, the interior, and the war and navy departments, were simply shocking and roused the indignation and disgust of the country.'"

Having traced thus far The Nation's argument, we append the conclusion entire and invite to it careful attention: "Now, what is the remedy which a large body of excellent Republicans propose for what they consider the great evil and danger of a Democratic majority in both branches of Congress? How do they mean to escape from the present distressing situation? We are serious when we say that they propose the taper's cure for his headache—a little of the hair of the dog that bit him." In other words, in order to recover the Republican supremacy which General Grant found so overwhelming, but which had disappeared under eight years of his rule, they propose to give him another term of four years. They say, "We cannot intend to try to analyze the state of mind which makes this plan seem attractive, nor is it necessary to gainsay all that is put forth by way of commendation of General Grant as a man or as a soldier. We are here only concerned with the effect of a third term of General Grant on the Republican party; of this we must judge by the history of his last two terms, and judging by it we are driven to the following conclusions: 1. That the effect of foreign travel on a man of his age and stolidity and general mental equipment has probably been hardening rather than opening—that is, that it has probably strengthened his respect for money and his confidence in his own judgment, and that he will come back substantially unchanged, but, if changed at all, a less valuable civil administrator than he was."

2. That he will find all his old friends and advisers who are still living waiting for him eagerly in Washington, many of them restored to the positions which they had lost before he went away, and a great deal of sentiment drawn from Mr. Hayes's failure, and the revival of his own popularity, to show that the kind of government he carried on was after all the best one, and the one people demanded, and that those who objected to it were dreamers and cantonniers. 3. That he will thereupon commit himself anew to their hands with increased confidence and will tend to greater insensibility to criticism than he formerly displayed, and that their adroitness in jobbery and corruption will be in the direct ratio of this insensibility. 4. That the state of things which will then follow will be in many respects worse than that which revolved the public from 1870 to 1876, inasmuch as it will be marked by greater contempt for hostile opinion, and that the public whose memory, as we see, is very short, will forget the shortcomings of the Democrats as readily as it is now forgetting those of the Grantites, and will express its indignation once more against Democratic majorities, until in 1884 the Republican party will be reduced to a worse plight than ever, and hopelessly excluded from power. There could hardly, in fact, be a worse sign for the future of the party than that in its twenty-seventh year, after eighteen years of such power as no party men should desire, and so little to bring talent and character to the front that it should not be able to produce a single civilian to save it from the necessity of giving a third term to a soldier whose want of civil capacity had

already deprived it of the control of the government.

The argument is conclusive, and we have thus shown by facts and figures shown from the highest Republican authority, the entire tenability of the position which we have always maintained upon general principles, to-wit: that the Democracy has nothing to fear from Grantism. Under Grantism it has grown and flourished and become strong, and Democracy is the last element which should feel gloomy over an attempt to revive it. It cannot win again for the reasons so clearly set forth by The Nation. The masses of the Republicans of the North, who supported Gen. Grant so heartily in 1868, and supported him again in 1872, but with diminished zest, have seen the point and will not be too swift to thrust their heads into the noose again; while so far as the South is concerned, his hosts here, which were solid in their allegiance ten years ago, have been smitten and scattered, and he cannot block the board south of Mason and Dixon's line. But suppose the worst should come to the worst and Gen. Grant should be elected to a third term; the result would undoubtedly be that which The Nation predicts: his administration, the policy of which would be dictated as in the past by the thieving gang around him, would be similar in all respects to what it was during his two former terms, and by 1884 the name of Republicanism would be a stench in the nostrils of all decent men, and the party would be buried out of sight and beyond resurrection.

We repeat, that the Democracy, whatever it has to fear from other sources, has nothing to fear from Grantism. Let no Democrat stand in the way of his re-nomination.

CARD FROM CAPT. NATHAN ATKINSON.—When, a day or two before the adjournment of the General Assembly, Mr. Ardrey, of Mecklenburg, told Mr. Atkinson, of Buncombe, that he (Mr. Atkinson) had "cost the State more money by his talk than all his retrenchment had come to, we thought the point well taken and made bold to say so. For this we are "carded" by Mr. Atkinson, whose letter we publish in another column, with this apology: that it ought to have appeared three days ago and should have so appeared had it not been mislaid. We very cheerfully give Mr. Atkinson this hearing, but must be pardoned if we dissent from his proposition that the saving to the State effected by the committee on retrenchment and reform has anything at all to do with the merits of the original question. Mr. Ardrey was not speaking, we suppose, certainly we were not of the Legislature, or of any committee thereof, but only of Mr. Atkinson.

WHERE OUR CONGRESSMEN ARE STOPPING.—Colonel Steele, to whose thoughtful courtesy we are indebted for many kindnesses in the past, has our thanks for the Congressional Record, all the back numbers of which, since the beginning of the extra session, were received by yesterday's mail. Thus far the Record contains nothing of interest that has not already been received by telegraph, except that its congressional directory gives the Washington homes of all the North Carolina delegation, which information, for the sake of those who may visit Washington, we here transfer to our columns: Senators Ransom and Vance are at the Metropolitan Hotel, while the members of the lower house are located as follows: Martin, 1222 G street, N. W.; Kitchin, Russell, Ebbitt House; Davis, Seales and Steele, National Hotel; Attnfield, at the Metropolitan; and Vance at 223 E street, N. W.

CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT.—It occurs to us that a Democratic Congress will stultify itself, after raising the necessity for an extra session, if it abandons its declared purposes as to certain political legislation. We declare the firm opinion that nothing is to be made now by concessions, or by a policy of doubt, hesitation and vacillation. If the Democratic leaders did not mean, when they said it, that the test oath and the marshal and supervisor laws must be repealed, they should not have said it. Since they have said it they should stick to it. It will not increase public respect for the dominant party for it to retire now from a position deliberately taken on a matter of great public importance, or what is the same thing, to set about to conciliate the enemy after having thrown defiance in his teeth. We should greatly prefer to see a sweeping repeal by Congress of the objectionable laws, as was originally proposed; and then let the President take the responsibility.

LOUISIANA. Election Cases Continued.—Complexion of the Convention. NEW ORLEANS, March 25.—The Tensas parish case was called up to-day, and on application of counsel for the defense the case was continued till Thursday. The Times publishes a complete list of the delegates elected to the constitutional convention, showing 94 Democrats, 33 Republicans, 7 Fusionists and Nationals.

Queen Victoria Arraigned in the House of Lords. LONDON, March 25.—In the House of Lords to-night the Marquis of Lansdowne will move the following resolution: "That this House, while willing to support her majesty's government in all necessary measures for defending the possessions of her majesty in South Africa, regrets that an ultimatum calculated to produce immediate war should have been presented to the Zulu King without authority from the responsible advisers of the crown, and that an offensive war should have been commenced without an imperative and pressing necessity or adequate preparation; and the House regrets that after the passage of the high commission mission by her majesty's government in a dispatch of the 19th of March, the conduct of affairs in South Africa should be retained in his hands."

The government will meet this resolution with a direct negative motion by Sir Charles Dilke, in the same form as that debated in the House of Commons Thursday.

A Western preacher who had been consistently and avowedly a member of the incessant hounding of the members of his congregation, who closing his sermon responded to Dr. D. B. J. Cough Syrup. Price, 25 cents.

CONGRESS'S EXTRA SESSION.

NOT MUCH OF A DILEMMA FOR WORK.

Bills and Resolutions.—The New Hampshire Senator to go.—The House Committee on Appropriations.—The Senate Committee on Appropriations.—The Senate Committee on Appropriations.—The Senate Committee on Appropriations.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—SENATE.—A large number of bills and memorials were presented, among them a bill by Booth authorizing the secretary of the interior to declare railroad grants forfeited in certain cases. Davis, of West Virginia, introduced a joint resolution for a special committee to consider and report as to the best means of promoting agriculture.

The Senate took up the resolution of Hoar, declaring an unconstitutional and revolutionary the Democratic programme of legislation as announced by Beck at the close of the late Congress. Hoar spoke of some ground on this subject, deprecating in emphatic terms the course of legislation thus prefigured, and saying that the dominant power sought to effect by a simple process what could be accomplished by a change of the constitution of the United States, altering the present relations of the three departments of the government.

Mr. B. R. King has resigned his position as chief of police of Wilmington, and Messrs. William and Edward Griffith have been appointed on the force.

The smoke house of Dr. W. J. Jones, of Goldsboro, was last Saturday night robbed of a quantity of bacon, lard and flour. A portion of the meat and lard has been recovered.

On the 18th inst., some parties unknown, robbed and then set fire to the residence of Mr. D. L. Flowers, in Elevation township, Johnston county. Loss, \$3,000.

The Wilmington Star says: This has been a season of long trains. One of the Carolina Central engineers, not to be outdone, states that when he repairs the engine, the watchman at Meary's Bluff to know whether his slanty car had passed. This "takes the rig off the bush" and winds up the present season of long trains.

The following is from the editorial columns of the New York Sun, of Monday, March 25, 1879: "The length of a pig's tail led to a murder in Madison county, North Carolina, last Thursday. Two farmers, named Norton and Gaither, disputed concerning the length of the tail of a pig which they were examining, Norton gave Gaither the lie, whereupon Gaither told Norton to get ready for a deadly fight. Both men drew their revolvers almost simultaneously. Gaither was fatally wounded and Norton lost a thumb. The point as to which the majority of the jury was precipitated into the street below. About 15 persons were more or less injured, but none fatally. A great panic prevailed on the train and the wild excitement ensued. It appears that a first-class train had just been switched off by the upward bound train, that which had not been closed when the down train came along, and the result was that the down train was switched off on the eastside track, where it collided with the upward bound train. The engines were badly knocked off, and the forward cars were derailed off their tracks."

Cable from England to South Africa. LONDON, March 25.—The British government has accepted the tender of the eastern telegraph company for the laying of the sub-marine cable to South Africa. The route is by way of Aden, Zanzibar, Mozambique, Delagoa Bay and Natal. It will connect with the whole of the eastern system of telegraphs, extending to India, China and Australia.

Church Dedication in Baltimore. BALTIMORE, March 25.—St. Vincent DePaul's church, on Front street, near the corner of the city, was dedicated yesterday. The services were conducted by the Rev. Father Gibbons, who was assisted by the Rev. Father Keane, of Richmond, Va., presiding at the dedicating sermon.

Stricken with Paralysis. CINCINNATI, March 25.—A dispatch from Detroit says: Robt. McLeiland, ex-governor of Michigan and Secretary of the latter State, is said to have been stricken with paralysis last evening. His condition is critical.

A British Victory. LAHORE, March 25.—Gen. Tylor yesterday defeated 5,000 of the enemy near Pesholok. The enemy lost 200 men. The British loss is trifling. The Bengal lancers made a brilliant charge.

TELEGRAPHIC MARKET REPORT. MARCH 25, 1879. PRODUCE. CINCINNATI.—Flour—superior and unbleached, family 4.20; good 4.10; wheat, red and white 1.00; corn, yellow 1.00; sugar, No. 10 11.00; No. 12 10.00; No. 14 9.00; No. 16 8.00; No. 18 7.00; No. 20 6.00; No. 22 5.00; No. 24 4.00; No. 26 3.00; No. 28 2.00; No. 30 1.00; No. 32 0.50; No. 34 0.25; No. 36 0.10; No. 38 0.05; No. 40 0.02; No. 42 0.01; No. 44 0.005; No. 46 0.002; No. 48 0.001; No. 50 0.0005; No. 52 0.0002; No. 54 0.0001; No. 56 0.00005; No. 58 0.00002; No. 60 0.00001; No. 62 0.000005; No. 64 0.000002; No. 66 0.000001; No. 68 0.0000005; No. 70 0.0000002; No. 72 0.0000001; No. 74 0.00000005; No. 76 0.00000002; No. 78 0.00000001; No. 80 0.000000005; No. 82 0.000000002; No. 84 0.000000001; No. 86 0.0000000005; No. 88 0.0000000002; No. 90 0.0000000001; No. 92 0.00000000005; No. 94 0.00000000002; No. 96 0.00000000001; No. 98 0.000000000005; No. 100 0.000000000002.

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