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THE WEEKLY STAR.

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A MORT FORTUNA REPROBATA.

Some two weeks before the President was smitten down several leading Northern dailies of the Republican party were quite plain spoken as to the character of Vice President Arthur. They little thought that the country would come so soon and so near the brink of an awful calamity as it has, but they recognized the uncertain tenure of human life, and in view of the possible death from natural causes of the President they looked at the condition of the country with Arthur succeeding. They bemoaned such a calamity, and they painted him in just such colors as this paper used in the last campaign. The difference between such Northern Republican papers and the *Star* is they tell the truth when it is too late to remedy a great wrong. Whereas the *Star* warned the country in time, before the great wrong had been committed.

No man can estimate fairly the extent of the blessings vouchsafed this country by a merciful Providence in sparing the life of the President. If he had died he would have been succeeded by a politician of the lowest possible type—a regular New York ward manipulator. So low was his standard of official duty and honor when in charge of the New York Custom House that Hayes removed him, and John Sherman wrote the letter stating squarely and unmistakably the grounds of the President's action. When Hayes and Sherman could not stand Arthur the country may judge easily how very poor must have been his moral fitness for the place.

Again, although elected on the ticket with Garfield, he thought it not inconsistent with his position as Presiding Officer of the Senate to leave his place and go to Albany, New York, to throw himself in the scramble and fit in which the Conkling and Robertson factions are engaged. Arthur enters into a fight with coat off and sleeves rolled up, to elect two men to the very body over which he is called to preside under the Constitution; and who are to fight the President. In this we have a foretaste, bitter and paucous, of what the country would get if such a creature were clothed with the highest powers.

We rejoice again and again, not only that the God of Nations has spared the valuable life of the President, but that the country has escaped such a fearful visitation as would have befallen it, if Arthur had succeeded to the chair of the Chief Executive. Let us say it, for we believe, every word of it. If Garfield had died it would have been the saddest blow that the rascals and rogues could inflict upon the country. The *Press* says: "The law requires that when the first Wednesday in December is more than two months off the Presidential Electors are to meet on the thirtieth day of November before noon. This is the day appointed on the subject, but it is not far enough off to avoid a closely arranged fit and other trouble."

We notice that Arthur is charged with preventing Senator Davis of Tennessee from being elected President of the Senate. The *Advertiser* of *Charleston* says: "It is hardly to blame." We say, it is the whole matter out of the service as soon as once the Congress assembles. Such contumacious rascals, not to be undecided. The whole thing ought to be arranged so directly and satisfactorily, that there can be no moments or moments, in case of just such an emergency arising as are speculated about, as is very certain, that a wise good man that ought to be nominated always for the Vice Presidency must be. The party in power in the Senate should choose its wisest and most discreet and most honorable member for the President.

We have been told that a fresh outbreak of crime and profligacy, beginning in Washington, would have swept the whole land as by a besom of desolation. God has spared mercifully the people from such a curse and such a calamity.

It is evident that in all this great land there is no people more devoted "household" than that to be found in the White House. In this the country has something to be thankful for.

Speculation has grown wild over the desire of rapid accumulation. It is the era of gigantic schemes, of far-reaching combinations. There was never before such a mania for speculating in railroad stocks, and scarcely even such a general movement before in railroad building. All sorts of joint-stock companies are being formed. The fact appears to be that the people have a much money that they are willing to take almost any kind of risks and enter upon all sorts of speculations. The success of so many regular speculators has excited the thousands who now rush into the business blindly, and it will be a marvel if many of them are not hurt. Without the proper knowledge and experience they can only succeed because success is unavoidable. But this kind of speculation is dangerous and imprudent. The more prudent speculators are said to be selling rather than investing. The *Baltimore Gazette* says:

"There is a genuinely honest and whole-

some speculation going on all the time,

as when a man builds up a house in ex-

pect of future profits, or when a man

buys and sells stocks or cargo of grain or

coffee or cotton for a better market. There

is also a regular and legitimate specula-

tion, which many of our soldiers quietly

practice, according to their "comrades' profit."

These do not "corner," nor "sell

short," nor play policy with "put" and "call."

They select a good stock, buy it when everybody is selling cash for it to "margin" for them; lock the shares up in the Safe Deposit Company, and wait.

The time comes when everybody is rush-

ing to buy, eagerly, at any price, and there

comes the time when everybody is sell-

ing, and the market value of specu-

lation which is now dredged is fostered by

another class of persons."

FOR FREEMEN TO KILLED ON.

Gov. Colquitt, of Georgia, is said to have pardoned nearly 50 convicts upon the occasion of his late visit for personal inspection to the prisons of the State.—*Exchange*.

Conservatism is a very good thing in place. The English Tories are very conservative, they resist all needed reforms. Time-honored institutions are excellent things, provided they be good in themselves and just what civilization needs. The world moves. It may have been the best possible thing under the circumstances when the pardoning power was deposited in the hands of one man, and he the Governor of the State. But trial has shown that the system is un-republican and works badly. It is a great responsibility. It is an absurdity as we have shown before. It is dangerous to our institutions. It undoes the work of the courts. Here is Gov. Colquitt pardoning with one dash of his pen life convicts who had been tried, convicted, and sentenced. Was not that a very great abuse of power? Ought any people to thus use the hands of the courts and to allow one man to give a quasi bid to the perpetration of crime?

The Connecticut Legislature, at its session, created a State Board of Pardons. It is said under the old system the abuses were great. There must be abuse when one man is left the sole judge of the advisability of pardoning a criminal. Governor Jarvis feels this so much that he favors a change, we believe, in the law. The *Louisville Courier Journal* says:

"The law requires that when the first Wednesday in December is more than two months off the Presidential Electors are to meet on the thirtieth day of November before noon. This is the day appointed on the subject, but it is not far enough off to avoid a closely arranged fit and other trouble."

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with preventing Senator Davis of

Tennessee from being elected Presi-

dent of the Senate. The *Advertiser* of

Charleston says: "It is hardly to blame."

We cut the following at the time

from what he said:

"The bill proposes to constitute a board

consisting of a governor, a major

of the State Board of Chancery, a

lawyer, and a lawyer, to be com-

missioned, as they say, to relieve the

President of his original condition of

bankruptcy and painful anticipa-

tions of the return of his family."

The people of the North have grown

so extremely rich that a quarter of a

million even a million, can more

than to bestow, than so many

thousands in the South.

Discussing the "failure of the pro-

hibition law, the *Leavenworth*

Kansas *Press* says: "Such an im-

practicable measure never was en-

forced, and never can be enforced."

Till Arthur comes it is perfectly re-

asonable and reorganized, and

every member of the Legislature

will be "changed" if that is pos-

sible enough to find his way

from his home to the capital without

any hearing, would be granted except for

subsequently occurring facts that would warrant it. Again, the bill provides that

this board shall have the power of granting

recessions upon conditions, &c. *Star*

We clipped too short, and the la-

st sentence is incomplete. We are anxious to see a change in our organiza-

tion in regard to persons. Soon or late it will come. North Carolina moves slow generally, but money

and the penalty in bankruptcy, or great

losses. Money is abundant and peo-

ple have grown wild over the desire

of rapid accumulation. It is the era

of gigantic schemes, of far-reaching

combinations. There was never be-

fore such a mania for speculating in

railroad stocks, and scarcely ever

such a general movement before in

railroad building. All sorts of

joint-stock companies are being

formed. The fact appears to be

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money that they are willing to take

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and it will be a marvel if many of

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reforms. Time-honored institutions are

excellent things, provided they be

good in themselves and just what

civilization needs. The

campaign of Gen. Lee against

Gen. McClellan, and his last cam-

paign against Grant, are enough to

stamp him a soldier of high qualities

With half of McClellan's force he

drove him under his guns and

drove him into the Peninsula of Virginia

With less than half of Grant's force

he kept him at bay for eleven months

and actually killed, wounded and

captured more men, according to

Grant's own official report, than he

ever commanded during the entire