

THE SUN,

A DAILY DEMOCRATIC PAPER. PUBLISHED BY THE SUN ASSOCIATION, IN WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, EVERY MORNING EXCEPT MONDAY, AND MAILED OR DELIVERED IN THE CITY BY CARRIER, TO SUBSCRIBERS AT THE FOLLOWING UNIFORM RATES: FOR ONE MONTH, 60 CENTS; THREE MONTHS, \$1.75; SIX MONTHS, \$3.50; TWELVE MONTHS, \$7.00.

The Sun.

CIGERO W. HARRIS, Editor. FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 6, 1878.

Elsewhere THE SUN prints from its Baltimore namesake every sensible remark on the subject of Mr. Hayes' sanitary suggestions. It will be seen that the acting President is rebuked for going too fast—in fact, of travelling faster than medical science. Mr. Hayes ought to be excused. Having lost his reckonings and with them his centrifugal force, he flies off recklessly into all sorts of wild notions.

REPEAL THE FEDERAL SUPERVISOR LAW.

In vexed matters those who make concessions have a right to make claims. The Southern people have conceded everything necessary to national harmony. They now claim that the North must unite with them in the removal of the Federal hand from over our home concerns. The feeling is general in this section that the time has come when all Federal surveillance in elections should cease.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

The case against Mrs. W. C. Ralston, widow of the millionaire, has been dismissed, all the parties having agreed that the reckless relic may spend on at the rate of a hundred thousand a day if she wants to. Wagner's "Siegfried" has been very successful at the Imperial Opera House in Vienna. The performance lasted over five hours, despite several cuts in the score.

The Quarantine Question.

The Public Health Association, in its late Richmond session, was wise enough to choose an entirely negative action—in spite of the manifest prejudice with which many members came up to it in favor of declaring yellow fever to be a purely ex-otic disease, and that a uniform national quarantine system was thereby made of no effect. The association declared that, as the data submitted to it were neither sufficient nor well arranged, and as the commissioners' reports were not complete or exhaustive, it was not expedient for it to pronounce either as to the origin of the fever or the means to prevent it.

expediency, are the most prominent. Hon. J. R. Tucker read a paper before the Public Health Association, in which he sharply laid down his view of the respective jurisdictions in the premises. Quarantine, he said, was strictly a matter for the States and municipalities to regulate—a domestic concern, but Congress could interfere in a supplementary way, under the power granted it in the constitution "to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States." If an interior city should quarantine so as to obstruct the commerce between the States it would be the undoubted right and duty of Congress to interfere. But the regulations and details of quarantine are State or municipal concerns, and should be kept so, and the delegation of all such authority to a Federal bureau is a proposition not to be entertained, and which should not be entertained for an instant. The question of expediency should also be as carefully weighed by Congress as that of jurisdiction. An exclusively government machinery will not only be very expensive and very unwieldy; it will tax many communities where epidemics never come for the benefit of a few which are constantly exposed to them. It will largely increase the number of office-holders of exclusively Federal appointment, and will correspondingly reduce the relative importance of the State and municipal governments. The advocates of a national bureau declare that "the question of expense will hardly be permitted to stand in the way of establishing a system calculated to save a large section of the country from the terrible devastation by which it has been annually afflicted for many years." This is a very convenient view of the beneficiaries of such legislation as is proposed, but it will scarcely commend itself favorably to those upon whom the burden of the costs are likely to fall without many of the equivalent benefits. And, in fact, Congress has no right to consider the question of quarantine against yellow fever at all until it has first been settled that the fever is of exotic origin, unless it is willing to assume the additional Federal duty of looking after the cleansing of streets, the sewage, and all the sanitary arrangements of Southern cities and towns. If yellow fever be indigenous as well as imported, and Congress assumes to prevent its increase, the number of office-holders must be prepared to assume the duties and the expenses of local health boards, as well as those of guarding ports against the intrusion of plagues from foreign ports. These are considerations which cannot be left out of sight in discussing this important question, and, while fully admitting that Congress ought to do something, we trust that there will be no hasty attempt to enlarge the duties of a Federal body under cover of sentimentality, which will serve the ends of office-seekers and designing politicians.

A Retaliatory Tariff on Cotton Goods.

Our dispatches of a few days past informed us that a vigorous movement was on foot in England to place a retaliatory tariff on American cotton goods imported into that country, and we were again informed yesterday that Russia was seriously considering a similar move. The great depression of trade across the water is attributed to the high protective tariff which is placed on foreign manufactures in this country, and now the experiment will probably be attempted to do away with this effect as far as may be by a retaliatory tariff which will artificially stimulate such manufactures by shutting out our goods from the markets of the countries so retaliating.

We have always opposed a tariff for protection mainly on the grounds that it is but proper that every man should be permitted to purchase the necessities of life wherever he can do so to his own advantage; because the high wages, which are the result of such protection, are more artificial than real, inasmuch as they are offset by the high prices also always the result thereof, and because protection is of the nature of class legislation and monopoly—two things directly at variance with our republican ideas.

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marks that "we ought to be ashamed of ourselves" to think that we stand below all other civilized countries except Denmark and Greece in the number of awards, and it takes occasion to pitch into the committee who had charge of the selection for sending so weak a display of pictures. The Herald, however, destroys the force of these remarks when it goes on to say that while the French critics talked graciously of the signs of promise which our art displayed, and praised chiefly the few really American genre pictures in the exhibition, the jury did not medal these, but "gave well-deserved second and third medals and an honorable mention to a canvas of archeological genre, a marine and a foreign genre picture painted abroad by Americans, and an honorable mention to one landscape executed in this country in a decidedly foreign manner." Now if this result reflects upon anybody it is not upon the painters of American landscape and genre, who were well represented and whose works commanded the praise of the most respected critics, but only upon the jurors, who were mostly Continental painters, and who recognized, in the schools of Paris, Antwerp and Munich. The truthful statement of the matter is that no awards at all were made to American painters.

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These elections clearly indicate three things which are of consequence to us: First, that the people of this country are dissatisfied with the Republican leaders and are unwilling for the Republic to be ruled by their ruinous measures and fraudulent practices. Second, that the Nationals do not meet with popular favor, and as a separate organization, have utterly failed to impress themselves upon the country; and lastly, that the star of the Democratic party is still in the ascendant, and the people are looking to that party as the only one capable of restoring prosperity to the country, and able to administer the government on those Constitutional and just principles, which are essential alike to the perpetuity of our institutions, and to the perpetuity of our institutions. Thus in the elections held in eight States the Republicans have lost twelve members of Congress; the Nationals have elected forty; and the Democrats have elected twenty-three, and have gained seven.

These facts demonstrate that the people intend to invest the Democratic party with the full control of the National Government. The Senate of the next Congress will be Democratic by a considerable majority, and it is only necessary for the Democrats of the South to reorganize their party, and to re-organize, and our triumph will be complete. It is for us to determine whether the banner on which are inscribed Reconciliation, Home Rule and Finance reform shall trail in the dust, or shall be borne on to victory.

Every consideration of interest, of policy and of patriotism then urges us to prepare immediately for the approaching political struggle.

Be assured, fellow-citizens, that without preparation, it will be impossible to achieve success.

Let us not by our apathy, our lukewarmness and indifference postpone the accession to power of that party which alone has been able to check Republican corruption and to arrest the progress of our government towards a centralized despotism.

Let us be steadfast in our devotion to principle, true to our organization and endeavor by every means to discontinue those independent and disorganizing who oppose our worthy standard-bearers freely and fairly chosen by the Democratic party in Convention assembled.

In particular do we desire to repeat what we have so often urged—the necessity of thorough local organization. It is the township committees who are charged with the most important of all party duties. To them is committed the duty of supervising the election, and of devising means to bring out every Democratic voter to the polls. They ought to meet frequently and advise and take counsel together how best to promote the fortunes of that party, on whose success depends so largely the prosperity of themselves and of their posterity. In every township, in every neighborhood, there ought to be appointed a committee of active, efficient and prudent party men, who will undertake to see that every Democrat in the precinct comes to the polls and casts his ballot for our nominee.

We therefore urge this upon the township committees; and if in any township it is neglected, we appeal to our Democratic friends there to send their conveyances for all their neighbors who otherwise might not attend the polls.

Let it be clearly understood in every locality that he who fails to vote for our nominee, gives half a vote to the Republican party, and that he who gives a portion of one day to an independent is taking the surest means to break up and destroy the only party which can give relief to our afflicted country. We want our fellow-citizens that great ends cannot be accomplished except at the cost of some inconvenience, and often through the sacrifice of our personal preferences; and we appeal to every man who has the good of the people at heart to give a portion of one day to his country, and subordinating his individual preferences, cast his ballot for the nominee of the Conservative party.

For the Committee: S. A. ASHE, Ch'n.

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