



GEORGE Q. CANNON.....EDITOR

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PROBABLE PEACE IN EUROPE.

THE war cloud which has lowered so threateningly over the political horizon of Europe, seems to be passing away, and the prospects for peace are brightening. For some cause or other the royal jobbers of Europe do not seem inclined for war just at the present time, and so they interfere to prevent Turkey and Greece coming to blows, and, from our latest telegraphic dispatches, it seems likely that their efforts will be successful. The Conference on the Eastern Question assembled in Paris on Saturday last, and remained in session for several hours. The negotiations, as far as conducted, it is said, were highly satisfactory, the representatives of the two belligerent powers manifesting a very conciliatory disposition. Another sitting it is believed, will be sufficient to settle the question, and to so arrange matters that war will be averted, and millions of property, and probably thousands of lives preserved. Recent news from Crete, also announces that the islanders have about given up their struggle and submitted to the power of the Sultan.

This promises well for the present peace of Europe, and although it may be the result of the interference of the so-called Great Powers, it must not be attributed to any other motive than that of policy. None need for a moment suppose that the Czar or his brother Kings have been influenced by motives of humanity only; they cannot afford to let such motives influence them when they obstruct the gratification of royal ambition. A war between Turkey and Greece would, without a doubt, have resulted in a general European war, in which Russia would have been overmatched, and again balked in her designs on the "sick man." And though she is probably the most colossal power in Europe, she has not forgotten the contest in the Crimea from '54 to '57.

Besides, peace is a necessity in Europe just now. The people of the Continent are uneasy, and the flames of war once ignited, who knows what the result might be. In France, the dynasty of Napoleon is becoming obnoxious. The people of Spain are still in a state of great excitement. They have rid themselves of a crowned head lately; and though the aristocracy and the adherents of royalty are doing their best to restore the institution, though it may be in a modified form, and will probably be successful, yet there is no knowing what effect a war between little Greece and the once mighty Ottoman empire, waged ostensibly to assert Cretan liberty and to secure Cretan independence, might have. The diplomats of Europe are alive to this. They would without the least remorse or compunction wage remorseless war if by so doing the system under which they thrive would be at all likely to gain by it; but peace must be preserved if there is the least fear of a contrary result. Hence a peaceful solution of the Eastern difficulties may be anticipated. It is a necessity under present circumstances. It is however a blessing to the people of Europe. The best of times with them are by no means too prosperous; while their condition is deplorable when the only trade flourishing is that of war, for then distress and misery prevail generally.

This question of war with Turkey and her ultimate downfall is but a matter of time, and it would probably be a gain to the cause of progress and civilization if it were to take place to-morrow. Russia is seemingly the power destined to accomplish this work, and if her progress for the next fifty years equals that of the past fifty,—and it promises to be infinitely greater,—the "sick man"—Turkey—must succumb, though the "balance of power" in Europe should have been for ever lost sight of, and British rule in the East Indies be completely overthrown.

THE PRESIDENT ELECT AND HIS LABORS.

If we may believe some of our contemporaries, we are on the verge of a political millennium. The great pacificator, General Ulysses S. Grant, has been elected President, and the Republic is now about to enter upon a career of unexampled prosperity and glory. So they appear to think. The voices of those who attempt to express any other opinion are speedily hushed in the general congratulations and expressions of triumph to which the victorious give utterance. In fact, those who have been most noisy in their opposition to General Grant, previous to his election, have been very quiet since his election; and some of them appear to feel relieved at his success, as if the candidates whom they supported were not the men after all in whom they had the greatest confidence. There is doubtless not another man in the nation towards whom his opponents would have felt so kindly, or in whom they would have had such confidence, as General Grant. Previous to and since his election he has wisely held his tongue, and this silence has been more favorable to him and his cause than the most angelic eloquence could have been.

We have no wish to dampen the general joy which is felt at his victory. But we would remind politicians that however wise and influential General Grant may be, he alone cannot save the Republic from the dangers with which it is environed, nor redeem it from those evils which prey upon its vitals and threaten its very existence. It requires more than the genius, wisdom and influence of one man, however exalted his position, to do this. There must be a hearty co-operation on the part of the Cabinet, of the two Houses of Congress, of the office holders and of the people to accomplish this. It is one of the faults of our times to expect too many great results from the election of a popular man, forgetting that to ensure the success of such a man's measures and plans he must have the cordial support of the officers of government and the people, and that without this he is almost powerless.

General Grant has before him a labor of immense magnitude, and if he fulfil the expectations of those who appear to put their trust in him, he will do more than, we think, any man in his position and with his surroundings can possibly accomplish. Well may he shrink from taking upon him the responsibilities of the high office to which he has been elected. He doubtless knows that if he should fail in answering the expectations of his friends—and no mortal man should calculate on being able to answer them—that many of the men who are now loud in their professions of attachment to him will be his most noisy detractors.

The country is, in many respects, in a deplorable condition. The public credit is low; the finances are disordered; the burdens of taxation are great, and wide-spread dissatisfaction exists respecting them; the civil service is demoralized, and too many corrupt men hold places in it; in the South violence and crime hold high carnival, and the prospects of a change for the better are most discouraging. But these are not the worst features in the case. Throughout the Union there is a general demoralization of public and private morals. To support the luxurious and extravagant habits of themselves and their families public men have become venal and corrupt. They prostitute their offices and opportunities for gain; and they enrich themselves at the expense of the whole people. Of course, under such circumstances the poor suffer; they bear the burdens of the public extravagance.

Will the election of General Grant to the Presidential chair change all this? Will his election check the reign of luxury and extravagance which prevails throughout the land? Will virtue and morality gain numerous converts, and office-holders become pure and exemplary, and the simplicity of the early days of the Republic again prevail, because he is the Chief Executive? We should be pleased if we had good grounds to think so; but we cannot perceive them. The only good ground on which such hopes can rest is a radical change in the habits of the people. There is no prospect of such a change. In fact, everything that we see around us goes to show that the present course will be persisted in.

The Republic has great vitality; its resources are almost boundless; its form of Government is the best on earth; but it will require all these advantages, and more too, to maintain its position, if the evils which exist are not cor-

rected. The election of General Grant may have the effect to postpone the evil day; but, unless there are thorough reforms, it must come; and when his friends look for him to reform all these abuses and to restore the Republic to its pristine vigor, they expect too much and disappointment must be the result.

AN INFAMOUS BILL.

We thanked Providence this morning, upon reading the telegraphic dispatches, that the Constitution of our country does not permit Members of Congress to hold their seats for any longer term than two years, without an election. Poor Ashley of Ohio has had another attack of Utah on the brain. These attacks are periodical with him. As he told us when here on the 4th of July, 1865, he has charge of this Territory in his capacity of Chairman of the Committee on Territories in the House of Representatives. The care of us has been a heavy burden to him; but, the fates be thanked, he will be relieved from this care next fourth of March. His brain is constitutionally soft, and as softening of the brain is a disease to which of late politicians have been very subject, his constituents have had fears of him, and they have mercifully elected another in his stead. He retires from the House of Representatives in a few weeks.

When he was here in 1865 he told an immense concourse of citizens, who had assembled to do honor to the Nation's Anniversary, that the people of this country should feel under great obligations to us, and, on behalf of the loyal people of the United States, he thanked us. The introduction of the Bill referred to in our dispatches is the method which he takes to thank us. In this manner he would like to discharge the "great obligations" which he acknowledged the people of this country were under to us.

When here we heard pathetic tales about his poverty; old as he was he never had owned as much as a shingle that covered his place of residence. His friends were sympathetic; they would have liked others to have been moved at the spectacle of a patriotic and poor Congressman. But they were not moved. Just here the thought arises how would he have repaid the obligation had our citizens' sympathies been moved? If national obligations are to be repaid by dismembering the Territory of the people who have conferred them, how shall private obligations, conferred by the same people, be repaid? A needy, unprincipled adventurer, a blatant demagogue, a political trickster, who has recourse to every species of claptrap to obtain notoriety—in fact, Mr. Ashley himself—might answer.

We thank a benignant providence for so arranging affairs that the election of such men occurs no oftener than biennially.

SPECULATION IN PROVISIONS.

From many quarters we hear numerous and apparently well-grounded complaints against the course which has been taken in our midst by one or two men who deal in provisions. Last Saturday a working man went on the street to buy flour. He could not find it at any but one store; and they refused to sell him fifty pounds; they would not open any more until Monday, when they expected it would bring more than it did then. He went to another place on Monday morning, and they would only let him have twenty-five pounds, as they had not time to open more sacks to weigh him out fifty pounds. The reason of their not wanting to sell fifty pounds was, flour was rising! A dealer in provisions who keeps a store writes to us on the subject. He asks in relation to the fluctuation in the prices of flour:

Who has been and still is causing this fluctuation? Is it the Farmer? I think not. Of course he will get all his flour is worth and sometimes a little more; but who can blame him when nearly a dozen men will surround him and erect an "auction mart" on the street? Of course flour, &c., goes to the highest bidder. It was only the other day that the article of flour was run up from \$10 to \$13 per sack.

There are some two or three men gaining a name in this business—if we may credit the reports which come to us—that all the money they ever had or ever will have can not make decent. Money would be no inducement to any honest, just man to place himself in a position where such odium and such feelings of indignation from the poor would rest upon him. There is no necessity for these high prices of provisions, which rule at the present time. They are mainly traceable to speculators, and no speculators in food can prosper in this community. They are known to the people, and the people have good memories. They do not forget the men who take advantage of their necessities. We were told this morning by a re-

liable gentleman that one of these flour speculators went to every store where flour was for sale and bought it up, so that he might have the market in his own hands and sell at his own prices. Can such a man expect to prosper? We would have liked to have overheard his prayer in the evening after consummating such a transaction.

VOTING IN THE TERRITORIES.

The Daily Post, (Virginia, Montana,) in an article on "Presidential Elections" says that:

"The exclusion of the people of the Territories from any voice in the selection of President we have seen characterized as 'a singular anomaly in our Constitution.' The causes that existed for the limitation of voice in the Presidential vote to Electors in the States has passed away."

The Post thinks that the organization of Territorial governments over all the Government domain, except new acquisitions, and the facilities for the transmission of intelligence, have rendered obsolete the arguments that might have been used when the Constitution was adopted. It can see no good reason why the restriction should be continued. Being subject to the Government and its taxation, residence in a Territory should not disfranchise. It thinks that the constitutional provision that "the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States" certainly does not contemplate that there should be a restriction of privileges or immunities to certain citizens in the Territories, and their enjoyment by others who may have the money and the leisure to leave the Territories and go to their particular home States to vote. With the present electoral system there is no avoidance of this injustice, but with its prospective abolishment, it says, there should be a provision of larger justice, conferring the right to vote for President in the Territories. A registration act, as a preventive of fraud, the investiture of delegates with the right to vote in the House, and the privilege of qualified electors in the Territories, to vote for Chief Magistrate, it thinks, are each worthy and proper measures which it trusts Congress, with an enlarged sense of justice and liberal government; will give favorable consideration before another quadrennial election occurs.

We like to see such articles in the columns of our contemporaries. The apathy manifested by the people of the Territories respecting this subject has been surprising. Under the present arrangement the reward held out to the hardy pioneers for their enterprise in subduing and peopling the wilderness is disfranchisement. They sink their citizenship by leaving a State and settling in a Territory, and place themselves in a position where they have to endure the old oppression for which the revolutionary fathers felt themselves justified in declaring the thirteen colonies free and independent States, namely, taxation without representation. The government of the Territories as at present administered is a relic of colonial barbarism; it is unjust and oppressive and should be abolished as a system unworthy of and unsuited to a Republican people.

LEGISLATIVE.

Monday, 18

COUNCIL.—Communications were received from Hon. George Q. Cannon and A. W. Street, Esq., acknowledging the tender of the freedom of the Council Chamber.

Councilor E. Snow presented the financial report of Washington county, for the year ending June 1, 1868.

Councilor E. Snow presented the petition of John M. Macfarland and one hundred and fifty others for a charter for a Territorial Toll Road between Kanarra and Bennington, in Washington county; also, for an appropriation of eight thousand dollars to refund amounts used on said road, beyond last year's Territorial appropriation.

Councilor Harrington, Chairman of Committee on Judiciary, to whom was referred (C. F. No. 1), "An act regulating service of process in certain cases," reported the bill back with amendments and recommended its passage as amended.

The bill passed its first reading, and fifty copies were ordered printed.

Councilor Hyde, Chairman of Committee on Revenue, to whom was referred "An act to more clearly define the duties of assessors and collectors in certain cases," reported the bill back and recommended its passage.

The bill was read twice and was referred back to the Committee on Revenue for further consideration.

Councilor L. Snow, Chairman of Committee on Roads, Bridges, Ferries and Kanyons, to whom was referred "Petition of the people of Gunnison, asking for an appropriation of five hundred dollars to complete a bridge across Sanpich river," recommended that the sum of five hundred dollars be placed upon the general appropriation bill for that purpose. Report was accepted.

Councilor Hyde, Chairman of Committee on Revenue, to whom was again referred (C. F. No. 3), an act to more clearly define the duties of Assessors and Collectors in certain cases, reported the bill back with an additional section; read as amended, and passed its second reading, when it was laid on the table to come up in its order.

On motion of Councilor A. O. Smoot the freedom of the Council Chamber was ex-