

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE.

1871.

Through struggle and suffering, at the cost of multi-form agonies, bereavements, devastations, the American Idea embodied in the preamble to our fathers' Declaration of Independence approaches its complete realization. The noble inspiring assertion that "all men are created equal," and endowed by their Creator with inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, is no longer a glittering generality, a poet's fancy, a philosopher's speculation, but the recognized base of our political fabric. The benign Revolution, which dates from the Boston Massacre of 1770, finds its logical completion just one century later, in the XVth Amendment, which gives to the equal political and civil rights of every man born or naturalized in our Republic the shield and defence of the Federal Constitution. The billows of Caste and Privilege may roar and rage around that rock, and may transiently seem on the point of washing it away; but its foundations are laid deep and steadfast, and the breakers of Reaction and Slavery are hurled against and dash their spray over it in vain.

We do not underrate the forces of Prejudice and Aristocracy. We do not forget that a very large minority of the American People still hold, in their inmost hearts that Blacks have no rights which Whites are bound to respect. We fully appreciate the desperation wherewith all the warring elements of hatred to Republican achievement will be combined and hurled against the battlements of Republican ascendancy in the Presidential Election of 1872. We do not doubt that local successes, facilitated by Republican feuds and dissensions, will inspire the charging host with a sanguine hope of victory, such as nerved it to put forth its utmost strength in the earlier stages of the contests of 1864 and 1868. Yet our faith is clear and strong that the American People still bless God that, on the red battle-fields of our late Civil War, the Union was upheld and slavery destroyed, and will never consciously decide that the precious blood thereon poured out was lavished in vain.

The Tribune believes in the prosecution of the great struggle by legitimate means to beneficent ends. To State Sovereignty, it opposes indissoluble National Integrity; to Slavery for Blacks, Liberty for All; to Prescription, Enfranchisement; to Popular Ignorance, Universal Education; to intensity and eternity of wrathful Hate, universal and invincible Good Will. It would fain do its utmost to hasten the glad day when the South shall vie with the North in exultation and gratitude over the disappearance of the last trace or taint of that spirit which impelled Man to exult in the ownership and chattelhood of his fellow Man.

Profoundly do we realize that the contest is not yet ended—that Millions mourn, more or less publicly, the downfall of the slaveholders' Confederacy, and rear their children to hate those by whose valour and constancy its overthrow was achieved. If we ever seem to differ essentially from other Republicans, our conviction that magnanimity is never weakness, that vengeance is never politic, and that devils are not cast out by Beelzebub, must serve to explain alleged eccentricities whose perfect vindication we leave to Time and Reflection.

The Tribune has been, is, and must be, a zealous advocate of Protection to Home Industry. Regarding habitual idleness as the greatest foe to human progress, the bane of human happiness, we seek to win our countrymen in masses from the ensnaring lures of Speculation, of Traffic, and of always over-crowded Professions, to the tranquil paths of Productive Industry. We would gladly deplete our over-crowded cities, where thousands vainly jostle and crowd in misguided quest of "Something to Do," to cover prairies and plains with colonies absorbed in Agriculture, Mechanics and Manufactures, and constantly projecting into the blank, void wilderness the homes and the works of civilized Man. Holding the Protection of Home Industry by discriminating duties on Imported Wares and Fabrics essential to the rapid, beneficent diffusion of Production in all its phases and departments, and so to the instruction of our people in all the gainful arts of Peace, we urge our countrymen to adhere to and uphold that policy, in undoubting faith that the true interest, not of a class or a section, but of each section and every useful class, is thereby subserved and promoted.

The Tribune aims to be pre-eminently a News-paper. Its correspondents traverse every State, are present on every important battle-field, are early advised of every notable Cabinet decision, observe the proceedings of Congress, of Legislatures, and of Conventions, and report to us by telegraph all that seems of general interest. We have paid for one day's momentous advices from Europe by Cable far more than our entire receipts for the issue in which those advices reached our readers. If lavish outlay, unsleeping vigilance, and unbounded faith in the liberality and discernment of the reading public, will enable us to make a Journal which has no superior in the accuracy, variety, and freshness of its contents, THE TRIBUNE shall be such a Journal.

To Agriculture and the subservient arts, we have devoted, and shall persistently devote, more means and space than any of our rivals. We aim to make THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE such a paper as no farmer can afford to do without, however widely his politics may differ from ours. Our reports of the Cattle, Horse, Produce and General Markets, are so full and accurate, our essays in elucidation of the farmer's calling, and our regular reports of the Farmers' Club and kindred gatherings are so interesting, that the poorest farmer will find therein a mine of suggestion and counsel, of which he cannot remain ignorant without positive and serious loss. We sell THE WEEKLY TO Clubs for less than its value in dwellings for waste-paper; and though its subscription is already very large, we believe that a Half Million more farmers will take it whenever it shall be commended to their attention. We ask our friends everywhere to aid us in so commending it.

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