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THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1869.

PRISON DISCIPLINE. At this time, when the prevalence of crime and the boldness of criminals are subjects of almost daily discussion, the copious extracts from the annual report of the Inspectors of the Eastern Penitentiary which we printed yesterday are deserving of the most careful consideration. The arguments of the Inspectors all tend to the support of one point—the superiority of the separate over the congregate system of prison discipline as a means of reformation; and it must be acknowledged, even by the most zealous advocate of the congregate system, that the Inspectors make out a very strong case. There is in this and every other community a class of people, the very quintessence of respectability, who have no faith whatever in humanity outside of their own circle. The old rhyme of our school-days—

“There's no repentance in the grave. Nor pardon offered to the dead.” they seek to apply to the living as well, and stoutly maintain that a creature who has once gone seriously astray, who has openly and repeatedly defied nearly every command in the Decalogue, is lost beyond all hope, and that he shall therefore be shut in forever from the world. There may at best be a limited chance for reformation, but the congregate system surrounds the convict with a thousand temptations and a thousand incentives to the continuance of a criminal career, after liberty is regained, from which he is happily relieved by the separate system. The records prove that out of a given number of discharged convicts, nearly twice as many have been recommitted in Massachusetts, where the congregate system has prevailed, as in Pennsylvania, and this result is perfectly natural. The convict sent to the Eastern Penitentiary forms no new criminal associations, and when he leaves its walls, if he chooses to seek a new home and to begin a new life, he has nothing to fear from the exposure and denunciation of his old fellow-criminals. There are a considerable number of well-attested cases in which a thorough reformation has thus been effected, and there are living now in various portions of the United States honest, industrious, and useful men who paid the penalty of a youthful crime within the walls of Cherry Hill, but who have none of the difficulties to contend with which Victor Hugo has so graphically portrayed in his sketch of Jean Valjean. Congregate prisons are inevitably schools of crime. They afford ample opportunities for villains of every grade to disseminate their criminal knowledge; and as every man discharged must feel that he may at any moment be recognized and exposed by one of his associates, the difficulties involved in the commencement and continuance of an honest career are immeasurably increased.

These advantages are so obvious that they are almost universally conceded, and the opponents of the separate system antagonize it mainly on two grounds—first, that it is inhuman to deprive a man of society; and second, that separate convict labor is less profitable than congregate convict labor. The logical answer to the first objection is, that the Pennsylvania system contemplates separate but not solitary confinement; and that while the prisoner is deprived of all bad associations he is brought into direct contact with good influences.

It was formerly alleged that the Pennsylvania system produced insanity and destroyed health, but this theory is not sustained by the statistics; for while the percentage of deaths in the Eastern Penitentiary was not much larger than the percentage in the Massachusetts State Prison, the percentage sent to a lunatic asylum was much greater under the congregate than the separate system of confinement. The fallacy of expecting to realize substantial profits from congregate convict labor is demonstrated by the experience of New York, where the excess of expenditure over earnings, in the Sing Sing and Auburn Prisons, during the last three years, has amounted to nearly six hundred thousand dollars; and, so far as economical considerations are concerned, the Pennsylvania system needs no better vindication than the fact that the whole cost of maintaining the prisoners, exclusive of the appropriation by the Commonwealth, was but thirty-six cents per capita per diem.

What Pennsylvania most needs now is the erection of a new penitentiary, or the enlargement of the old ones, and the improvement of the county jails, or the establishment of such a system as will ensure the proper confinement of all prisoners.

The report of the Inspectors also gives an instructive lesson as to the primary cause of crime. Of the 253 prisoners committed during the last year, only 41 were illiterate, while 186 could read and write; so their crimes cannot be charged to ignorance. Intemperance no doubt had an influence, but 40 of the convicts were abstainers, 134 moderate drinkers, 59 were sometimes intoxicated, and only 20 often intoxicated. But under the head of “industrial relations” we are informed that of the 253 convicts, only 17 had served full terms of apprenticeship, 31 had been “apprenticed and left,” while 305, or more than eighty per cent. of the whole number, had been unapprenticed!

The Penitentiary, therefore, evidently gathers its recruits mainly from the large and growing class who are too indolent or too ignorant to work effectively, too proud to beg, and who resort to dishonest practices for a livelihood. Of all the prisoners confined within its walls, three-fourths were sentenced for larceny, robbery, counterfeiting, or forgery. The true field for reformatory effort is to teach the rising generation how to work. Let us have more industrial schools, an improved apprenticeship system, and a more general recognition among all classes of the truth, old as the hills but as unchanging, that an idle brain is the Devil's workshop, and that a youth squandered in inefficient folly naturally leads to a criminal manhood.

ENGLISH NEUTRALITY. The London Times yesterday morning launched another thunderbolt at Mr. Sumner's speech in the Senate on the Johnson-Clarendon treaty, concluding the tirade with the following paragraph:—

“The question is one of law and not of feeling. It remains to be shown that Great Britain can be held

answerable for any infraction of law or excess over the ordinary practice of both countries.”

This statement of the case, although made in an interest directly opposed to the claims of the United States, is as clear and just a presentation as could be made. The question is, and has been from the outset, “one of law and not of feeling.” Simple justice at the hands of a nation with which we had been for half a century on friendly and peaceful terms, is all that we now demand from Great Britain; and if this simple justice had been accorded us, as it is laid down by all the standard writers on international law, at the beginning of the Rebellion and throughout its continuance, the Alabama claims would never have occupied so prominent a place in history, and Reverdy Johnson's golden opportunity for after-dinner garrulousness would have been wanting.

The ruling classes of England, however, elected at the outset to make the question one of feeling, and not one of law. Despite and in defiance of their professions of holy horror at the enormities of the peculiar institution for whose permanence the South contended, they cast the great weight of their moral influence in the scale against the Union, not because they hated slavery less, but because they hated freedom more. The fundamental principle on which our system of government is based is entirely at variance with the idea of aristocratical supremacy which still underlies and thoroughly imbues the British constitution. If our language and customs had been different from those of England, the moral influence of American institutions upon those of the other country would be materially decreased; but this community of language and customs has always been fraught with danger to such of the institutions of England as are less liberal in principle and less oppressive in practical working than our own. From this source sprang the sympathy exhibited by the ruling classes of Great Britain for the Southern cause. It was felt that the suppression of the Rebellion would react visibly and speedily upon public sentiment on the other side of the ocean, and especially in England; that it would demonstrate the entire capacity of man for successful self-government; that it would encourage the masses of the common people throughout the world to continue their longings for the common rights of humanity—to persevere in their repeated attempts at wresting from the aristocracy a full acknowledgment and strict observance of these rights. The obligations of the law of nations, the dictates of humanity, the professions of the past, the aspirations of the future, all were lost sight of in the strong tide of mere feeling which swept over the nation and dictated its policy towards a government that was struggling for its very existence.

And now is presented the great question—Shall the claims which we have presented against Great Britain be adjusted on the basis of feeling or on that of law? The tender heart and voracious appetite of Reverdy Johnson were soon found to be his weakest points, and by a studious assault upon them he was won over completely, and gave full vent to his feelings after every dinner of which he partook. The Johnson-Clarendon treaty was subscribed to by him while thus awayed, and the English nation rubbed its hands in glee at the prospect of such an easy deliverance from the peril in which its mistaken policy had involved it. But the Senate of the United States, supported by the unanimous voice of the American people, rejected the terms of surrender proposed, viewing the treaty in the light in which it was held by Mr. Sumner, when he uttered these words:—

“A treaty which, instead of removing an existing grievance, leaves it for haunting and rancor, cannot be considered a settlement of pending questions between two nations. It may seem to settle them, but does not. It is nothing but a square. And such is the character of the treaty now before us. The massive grievance under which our country suffered for years is left untouched; the painful sense of wrong planted in the national heart is allowed to remain. For all this there is not one word of regret or even of recognition; nor is there any semblance of compensation.”

If we had been willing to submit to a settlement dictated by feeling alone, the result could be attained only by a smothering of our own feelings, in order that those of England might have all way. But we insist, and shall continue to insist, upon a settlement of the Alabama-claims question on the basis of law. When such a settlement is secured, it will no longer be problematical as to whether or not “Great Britain can be held answerable for any infraction of law or excess over the ordinary practice of both countries.”

HO! FOR SAN FRANCISCO. THE greatest work of our century has been completed, and by the laying of the last rail which unites the Union Pacific with the Central Pacific road, the grand highway across the American continent is a thing accomplished; and although the formal opening of the road is yet to take place, the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans are connected by a link of iron, and San Francisco and Philadelphia are practically as near to each other as Philadelphia and New York were one hundred years ago. It was expected that the connection between the two roads would be made by the beginning of July, so that the completion of the great enterprise would add a zest to the popular celebration of our national anniversary. The energy, however, with which the work has been carried on has brought about a meeting between the rival parties of road builders sooner than was expected, and the Fourth of July will find the Pacific Railroad in full operation.

The rapidity with which this road has been built is the more wonderful when we consider the enormous obstacles that had to be overcome. The point where the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific unite is nearly eleven hundred miles west of Omaha, the starting point, which but a few years ago was the centre of a wilderness unexplored and unknown except to the Indians and a few half savage frontier men. During the three years since its commencement the Union Pacific Road has pushed its way across the desert, carrying with it the materials of construction; it has scaled the Rocky Mountains over obstacles that would appear to be insurmountable; it has invaded the secluded retreat where the Mormons hoped that they would forever be beyond the reach of modern civilization, and now the last rail has been laid, the last spike driven, and the East and the West shake hands across the continent, and Pennsylvania and California feel more strongly than ever that their interests are identical, and that they belong to one nation. Crossing the desert and overcoming the great natural obstacles were not the only difficulties in the way of constructing this road? Everything needful for the work, except timber, had to be transported from the Atlantic States to Omaha, and thence over the road as it advanced westward. A hundred and ten thousand tons of iron rails, a million fish-poles, two million bolts, and fifteen million spikes were thus carried along and put down in the construction of the work. All the materials except brick, required for building foundries, machine-shops, station-houses, telegraph line

and offices, and other appurtenances, had to be obtained from a distance, together with subsistence and stores for from five to twenty thousand workmen, and forage for from six to eight thousand teams of mules and horses. These items will serve to give a slight idea of the magnitude of the task that has been accomplished.

The work now is done, the grand highway of the nation which unites the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and which will bring the commerce of Asia across our continent is completed, and the American people can congratulate themselves, as well as the directors of the road, upon the result. Hereafter the journey to San Francisco will be but a pleasant summer trip, and the great desert tracks which intervene between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains will ere long be peopled and brought under cultivation, and the metallic treasures which are locked up in the “mountain chests” will yield a rich harvest to the nation. It is impossible to estimate, in all its proportions, the importance of this great national work; and we can only rejoice that energy, perseverance, and skill have surmounted all obstacles and brought it to a happy conclusion.

THE COAL PRODUCT OF THE UNITED STATES during the year 1868 amounted to about 25,000,000 tons. Of this amount 22,000,000 tons were mined in Pennsylvania, 16,000,000 tons being anthracite and 6,000,000 tons bituminous. The product of the Potomac region, including Maryland and the eastern part of West Virginia, was about 1,500,000 tons, and that of the western coal fields about 13,000,000 tons. The following table shows the roads over which the 16,000,000 tons of anthracite coal produced by Pennsylvania were transported, with the amounts in tons:—

Table with 2 columns: Railroad Name and Amount in Tons. Includes Lehigh Valley Railroad (2,500,000), Delaware and Hudson Canal and Railroad (1,625,000), Lehigh Navigation Co's Canal and Railroad (1,095,317), Pennsylvania Coal Company's Railroad (1,045,853), Schuylkill Canal (967,628), Northern Central Railroad (674,246), Pennsylvania Canal (418,710), etc.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

JOHN B. GOUGH AT THE RINK. TWENTY-THIRD AND CHESTNUT STREETS, FRIDAY EVENING, May 7, 1869. Subject: "TEMPERANCE."

GO HEAR DR. ALLEN TO-NIGHT AT "OLD PINE STREET CHURCH." FOURTH and PINE Streets, on "LIFE IN THE GREAT SOUTHWEST."

A MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT WILL be given by the members of the GREEN HILL PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOL, GERMANIA ORCHESTRA, in the church, 1714 Arch Street, on FRIDAY EVENING, May 7, 1869. Exercises commence at 8 o'clock. Admission Twenty-five cents.

ALDERMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. A meeting of this Association will be held at the WETHILL HOUSE, WALNUT Street above SPRING Street, on FRIDAY, May 7, 1869, at 8 o'clock. Business of importance. 5 1/2 P.M. DAVID BEITLER, Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY. TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 3, 1869. TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY.

All Stockholders, as registered on the Books of this Company on the 30th day of April, 1869, will be entitled to subscribe for 25 Per Cent. of their respective interests in New Stock at Par, as follows:— First. Fifty per cent. at the time of subscription, between the 15th day of May, 1869, and the 30th day of June, 1869.

Second. Fifty per cent. between the 15th day of November, 1869, and the 1st day of December, 1869; or, if Stockholders should prefer, the whole amount may be paid up at the time of subscription, and each installment so paid shall be entitled to a pro rata of the Dividend that may be declared on full shares.

Third. That every Stockholder holding less than four shares shall be entitled to subscribe for one share; and those holding more than a multiple of four shares shall be entitled to subscribe for an additional share.

Fourth. All shares upon which installments are yet to be paid under Resolution of May 13, 1868, will be entitled to their allotment of the 25 Per Cent. at par, as though they were paid in full.

THOMAS T. FIRTH, Treasurer.

OLD OAKS CEMETERY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA. OFFICE, No. 518 WALNUT STREET.

This Company is now prepared to dispose of Lots on REASONABLE TERMS. The advantages offered by this Cemetery are well known to be equal, if not superior, to those possessed by any other Cemetery.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BLOOMSBURG IRON COMPANY will be held at the Office of IRON DALE, Columbia county, Pa., on WEDNESDAY, May 19, 1869, this day of election of Nine Directors, to serve the ensuing year, and for the transaction of other business.

ELLIS' IRON BITTERS. "Having used your Iron Bitters in my practice, I can testify to its superior tonic properties for invigorating the appetite and promoting digestion. I can unhesitatingly recommend it in cases of general debility and dyspepsia, and in cases of nervous prostration, and as a fortifying tonic. Its agreeable flavor must recommend it to all who are afflicted with these ailments." W. H. WELLS, Professor in the Philadelphia University of Medicine and Surgery.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY. TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 3d, 1869. NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the capital stock of the Company, clear of National and State taxes, payable in cash on and after May 30, 1869.

THE COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK OF PHILADELPHIA. PHILADELPHIA, May 4, 1869. The Board of Directors have declared a semi-annual dividend of FIVE PER CENT. payable on demand, clear of all taxes. S. C. FARR, Cashier.

THE CONSOLIDATION NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, May 3, 1869. The Board of Directors have this day declared a Dividend of SIX PER CENT., clear of all taxes and payable on demand, respectively. CHAS. GAUCH, Cashier.

CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, May 4, 1869. The Board of Directors have this day declared a Dividend of SEVEN PER CENT. for the last six months, payable on demand, clear of all taxes. H. F. SCHECTKY, Cashier.

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, May 4, 1869. The Board of Directors have this day declared a Dividend of FIVE PER CENT., payable on demand, clear of all taxes. W. RUSHTON, Jr., Cashier.

GIRARD NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, May 1, 1869. The Directors have declared a Dividend of SIX PER CENT. for the last six months, payable on demand, free of all taxes. W. L. SCHAFFER, Cashier.

KENSINGTON NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, May 4, 1869. The Board of Directors have this day declared a Dividend of TWELVE PER CENT. for the last six months, payable on demand, clear of all taxes. WILLIAM MCCONNELL, Cashier.

THE MANUFACTURERS' NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, May 4, 1869. The Board of Directors have this day declared a Dividend of FIVE PER CENT. payable on demand, clear of all taxes. M. W. WOODWARD, Cashier.

THE PHILADELPHIA NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, May 3, 1869. The Directors have declared a Dividend of SEVEN PER CENT. for the past six months, payable on demand, clear of all taxes. B. B. COMBES, Cashier.

NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC. PHILADELPHIA, May 1, 1869. The Board of Directors have declared a Dividend of THREE AND ONE-HALF PER CENT. for the last six months, clear of all taxes, payable on demand, clear of all taxes. JOSEPH P. MUMFORD, Cashier.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE. PHILADELPHIA, May 4, 1869. The Board of Directors have this day declared a Dividend of FIVE PER CENT., payable on demand, clear of all taxes. JOHN A. LEWIS, Cashier.

SOUTHWARK NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, May 4, 1869. The Directors have this day declared a Dividend of EIGHT PER CENT., payable on demand. P. LAMB, Cashier.

CLOAKS AND MANTILLAS. CLOAKS! CLOAKS! OUR STYLES are the newest. OUR MATERIALS the most fashionable. OUR WORKMANSHIP the very best. OUR STOCK the largest in the city. OUR PRICES deft competition.

JAMES M. SCOVILL, No. 8 NINTH Street.

CLOTHING.

Merry, Merry Month of May Came In! With storm and blow, And rain and snow, And water and mud, above, below, Ugh! Boo! What can we do? Where could we go? Out of the dismal rain and wet? Colds in our heads, Frogs in our throats, Wrapped to the ears!

At the place where they clothe the people all, ROCKHILL & WILSON'S GREAT BROWN HALL!

It is one of the beauties of ROCKHILL & WILSON'S Clothing Establishment, that gentlemen can buy clothes for every kind of weather, and at such low prices that no gentleman can afford to be without the proper variety for every emergency of storm or sunshine.

Our new style of light Spring Overcoat is such that you can rely up and put it on your hat when you do not want to be inconvenienced by carrying or wearing it.

CHEATS, Bannockburns, Pique, Diagonals, Stripes, Meltons, Steel and Silver Mixed, and, in short, all manners and descriptions of good things in the Clothes line that are needed to satisfy the most ardent aspirations of masculine humanity.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS.

MRS. SOUTHWORTH'S NEW BOOK Will be Published in a Few Days. THE CHANGED BRIDES. BY Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth

In its press and will be published on Saturday, May 15 by T. B. Peterson & Brothers. It will command a very large sale, as it is fully equal to "Fair Play" and "How He Won Her," which have proved to be two of the best novels ever published, and which are having unprecedented sales.

Bookkeepers are requested to send on their orders at once for this work, as the publishers, on receipt of the price of the work in a letter to them.

T. B. PETERSON & BROTHERS, 1249 No. 326 CHESTNUT Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFE. FREE SKATING RINK. FIRE. STILL ANOTHER GREAT VICTORY FOR WATSON'S SAFES.

MEMOR. J. WATSON & SON. GENTLEMEN:—We had one of your well-known and celebrated Fireproof Safes, with the inside door improved in the fire that destroyed the Philadelphia Skating Rink on Thursday night, the 9th instant. The safe was exposed to an intense heat, melting off the brass knobs and plates. On opening the safe, we found all our books, money, and papers in perfect condition, and to our great satisfaction.

New Safes at greatly reduced prices, lower than elsewhere. Also, several good Second-hand Safes.

J. WATSON & SON, (Of late Brans & Watson), No. 83 S. FOURTH Street, 8 1/2 stories up. Two doors above Chestnut street.

GROceries, ETC. TO FAMILIES GOING TO THE COUNTRY.

Our stock of strictly fine quality of Staple and Fancy Groceries

Was never more complete than now. We shall strive to sell as low as such fine goods can possibly be purchased, and guarantee everything. Great care will be taken to pack securely and deliver free of charge to any depot or express office in the city.

SIMON COLTON & CLARKE, S. W. COR. BROAD AND WALNUT STS., PHILADELPHIA.

THE ORIGINAL AND GENUINE ALBERT BISCUITS, Manufactured by Mackenzie & Mackenzie, Edinburgh.

These Biscuits are supplied regularly to the Queen, the Royal Family, and the Nobility of England.

FOR SALE BY THOMPSON Black's Son & Co., BROAD and CHESTNUT STS., PHILADELPHIA.

FINANCIAL. DREXEL & CO., NO. 34 SOUTH THIRD STREET. American and Foreign BANKERS.

Issue Drafts and Letters of Credit Available Throughout Europe. \$10 4p DREXEL, WINTHROP & CO., DREXEL, HARRIS & CO., New York. Paris. SAMUEL WORTH. FRANCIS F. MILNE.

WORK & MILNE, BANKERS, STOCK AND EXCHANGE BROKERS, No. 121 S. THIRD Street, PHILADELPHIA.

STEINWAY & SONS' GRAND Pianos and upright Pianos, at BLANKIS BROS., No. 1006 CHESTNUT Street. \$112

BRADY'S PIANOS.—ONE AT Taylor & Parlor's Organs. WILLIAM G. FISHER, No. 1015 ARCH Street. \$112

CHICKERING Grand Squares and Uprights. \$112 DUTTON'S, No. 914 CHESTNUT Street.

ALBRECHT, RIEKES & SCHMIDT, FIRST-CLASS PIANO FORTES. Full guarantee. No. 610 ARCH Street. \$112

STECK & CO.'S & HAINES BROS. PIANO FORTES, AND MASON & HAMILTON'S CABINET AND METROPOLITAN ORGANS, with the new and beautiful VOX HUMANA. Every instrument offered to purchasers. \$112

CHINA, GLASSWARE, ETC. PRICES REDUCED. FRENCH CHINA, GLASS, PARISIAN GRANITE, AND GENERAL HOUSE-FURNISHING GOODS IN OUR LINE IN IMMENSE VARIETY.

BEST GOODS, CHEAPEST PRICES. TYNDALE & MITCHELL, No. 707 CHESTNUT Street, PHILADELPHIA.

WOOD Mouldings, Brackets, Balusters, Newell Posts, Etc. The stock is made from a careful selection of Michigan Lumber, from the mills direct, and we invite builders and contractors to examine it before purchasing elsewhere. Turning and Scroll Work in all its varieties. \$ 5 1/2

ESLER & BROTHER'S U. S. BUILDERS' MILL, Nos. 24, 26 and 28 S. FIFTEENTH St. We offer this season to the trade a larger and more superior stock of Wood Mouldings, Brackets, Balusters, Newell Posts, Etc.

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