

Evening Telegraph

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1870.

THE LEGISLATURE AND THE MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS.

The lower branch of the State Legislature yesterday resolved, by the decisive vote of 84 yeas to 9 nays, that no more public buildings shall be erected on Independence Square, and we hope that this wise, just, and necessary resolution will speedily be approved by the Senate. A large majority of the citizens of Philadelphia, and every disinterested Pennsylvanian residing beyond the limits of the city, will heartily approve this action. Those who wish to cover Independence Square, forever, with municipal buildings, may imagine that veneration is an obsolete virtue, and they may affect to ridicule the attempts to preserve the birthplace of American liberty from perpetual desecration as too absurd for their serious notice. Their philosophic legislative ally, Mr. Elliott, may be "grieved to find that the American eagle has been loosened," and he may account at his leisure to his constituents for his declaration that, "if there was any sanctity about the hall there was certainly none about the square." Even the opponents of the obnoxious project may readily confess that the present associations surrounding Independence Hall are of a degrading character, and that we are in part prepared to treat with indifference even the room where the immortal fifty-six pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honors, by seeing it made the perpetual background of a knot of huckstering politicians, and by having it flanked on one side by the headquarters of a force devoted to the arrest of criminals, and on the other by courts where the enemies of society are judicially arraigned. But these associations have been popularly regarded as a temporary rather than a permanent evil. Every patriotic heart has looked forward confidently to the period when they were to be removed for ever. Although it is discreditable to the city that they have been perpetuated to this time, even that fact has not destroyed, in millions of bosoms, a feeling of profound veneration for the spot which, of all others on the globe, is most sacred to the lovers of human liberty, and it is an insult to Philadelphia to pretend that they are dead to the sentiment which so universally prevails among all other citizens of the United States. On several occasions when destructive fires occurred on blocks contiguous to Independence Square, no man who remembers how the flames surpassed themselves by the courageous daring of their efforts to shield Independence Hall from the devouring flames will dare to tell them that they are indifferent to its destiny and its future surroundings. Other cities have religiously preserved for thousands of years the sanctity of places which have not a tithe of the intrinsic importance legitimately connected with Independence Square, and as the centuries rolled on the jealous care with which such spots was guarded increased rather than diminished. So, too, should it be here. The subject is not one on which we should haggle. If we care so little for the birthplace of freedom that we are willing to formally proclaim a degrading estimate of it to the world (as we certainly would do by covering all the adjacent space with expensive edifices), we may as well tear it down, stone by stone, and let it be transported to some other city where it would command municipal respect. If the newspaper writers and legislative orators who sneer at the idea of the sanctity of the square wish to test public sentiment, let them carry the spirit they display to its logical conclusion by advocating such a removal. They will then speedily discover what answer the people have in reserve for their favorite proposition.

THE PRISON INSPECTORS AND THE HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

The report of the Board of Prison Inspectors, showing the operations of the County Prison for 1869, fully confirms the opinion we have hitherto expressed in these columns, that the only proper site for a House of Correction is on the grounds adjacent to the existing prison. They reiterate their conviction that, while it is imperatively necessary that the number of the cells in that institution should be immediately enlarged, "a House of Correction for vagrants and drunkards should constitute" one of its departments. To accomplish an object which is so vitally necessary to the welfare of this city, an enabling act of the Legislature appears to be necessary, and if that body wishes to save Philadelphia an expenditure of millions of dollars on the one hand, and to place her whole system of dealing with crime and criminals on a proper footing on the other, it will quickly pass such an act. Too much time has already been wasted in visionary schemes which were based on jobbing operations, and the money that Councils are tempted to spend for an unnecessary, expensive, and inconvenient new rural site will be nearly sufficient to put all the proposed new machinery in working order. In mercy to the overburdened taxpayers of Philadelphia, O wise men at Harrisburg, grant the just request of the Prison Inspectors, and for once permit her citizens to accomplish a necessary object in a sensible and economical manner!

THE INDIANS. IN ANOTHER column will be found a copy of a most important bill offered yesterday by Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. General Wilson is entitled to the thanks of the community for perfecting and introducing into the Senate a bill that gives the promise of meeting with general favor, and going far to solve the great problem of what shall be done for the Indian.

The chairman of the Military Committee may be viewed as the representative in the Senate of the Military Department of the Government. I would seem from the bill presented by him that there is now to be made a systematic and persistent effort to prepare all Indians in amity with the United States for the high privileges accorded to them in our amended Constitution. It appears also that the Board of Inspectors appointed under the bill are to prevent the fraudulent claims for damages by which annual appropriations for Indians are often swept away as soon as the appropriation bill becomes a law. Whole tribes have often by these fraudulent claims been obliged to starve or die, because of wrongs done by a few scampish soldiers or hangars-on, or because of actual frauds charged against them in Washington, where they had no power to give rebutting testimony. The other advantages of this bill will be apparent to all who read it.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY MANAGEMENT.

Most of the Southern railway companies were so much impoverished or disorganized during the Rebellion that when the war was over they found it impossible to carry on their operations, and they were compelled either to sell out or lease their roads for merely nominal amounts to Northern capitalists. The men into whose hands the roads thus passed are too often inspired solely with the idea of making money to care how the public are accommodated or protected so long as they can realize as large dividends as possible out of their speculation. All the Southern railroads were in ruinous condition at the conclusion of the war, and on many of them only such repairs have been made as are absolutely necessary for the running of the trains. The tracks have been laid and the bridges repaired in the cheapest manner. Make-shifts of every description have been resorted to to save money, and with old worn-out engines and cars, badly laid tracks, and the badly patched ruins of bridges, the only wonder is that thousands of persons have not been slaughtered every year in order that the gains of soulless corporations may be increased.

An example of the consequences that must inevitably result from this system of management was furnished not two weeks ago on the Mississippi Central Railroad, where a train of cars run through a trestle, killing from fifteen to twenty persons. This horrible occurrence was the result of the system of management we have described, and the men who control the affairs of the road are directly responsible to public opinion, as they ought to be to the laws of the land, for the death of every person who was slaughtered on this occasion. The Mississippi Central Railroad was leased for a term of sixteen years from the 1st of September, 1868, at one dollar per year; the lessees assuming during that time all the responsibilities, pecuniary and otherwise, of the original corporation. The lessees were Henry S. McComb, of Wilmington, Del.; Sam Tate, of Memphis, Tenn.; Josiah Bardwell, of Boston, Mass.; Eben D. Jordan and Charles A. Lombard, of Boston; H. Winthrop Gray, Cyrus H. McCormick, and Junius B. Alexander, of New York; John L. King, of Springfield, Mass.; Horatio D. Newcomb, of Louisville, Ky.; and Samuel M. Felton, of Delaware county, Pa. doing business under the name and style of the Southern Railroad Association. If the Southern railroads are to be rebuilt and put in operation the aid of Northern capital will have to be largely extended, and no one expects that capitalists will invest their money unless they expect to gain something by it. But the public have some rights in railroads as well as the men who operate them, and they have, above all other things, the right to demand that they shall be kept in good repair and managed in such a manner as to make travel over them reasonably safe. The public have a right to demand that rotten bridges and trestles shall be put in good condition, that the tracks shall be securely laid, and that the locomotives and cars shall be built sufficiently well and kept in sufficiently good repair to guard against any such disaster as that which occurred upon the Mississippi Central on the 25th of February. If the managers of railroads cannot fulfil these conditions they have no right to carry on the business of transporting freight and passengers, and they ought to be held responsible before the courts for every disaster such as that referred to. If an example were to be made of the men composing the Southern Railroad Association, in this instance, there is no doubt that it would have a most beneficial effect upon the management of all the Southern roads, and would compel some genuine efforts to be made to have them put in proper condition, so that the public would be able to travel over them without fear and trembling lest they should at any moment be made the victims of a little coterie of capitalists, who are only interested in filling their own pockets, no matter what may be the consequences to others.

THE FINE ARTS. Sale of Fine Paintings.

The great picture sale of the season is announced to take place on Thursday and Friday evenings next, at the galleries No. 1125 Chestnut street, where the works are now on exhibition. This collection is largely made up of the importations of Messrs. Bailey & Co., and it comprises specimens of some of the most popular European masters of the day. These paintings were selected in Europe expressly for the sale of Messrs. Bailey & Co., whose taste and judgment in art matters are in themselves sufficient guarantees of the high character of the works they offer to the public. In addition to these, there are a number of pictures by American artists of reputation, and the collection altogether is one of great interest and of a much higher grade of merit than usual. The catalogue mentions one hundred and forty-six works in all, and there are several fine pictures in the collection that, owing to some mistake, have not been mentioned.

Among the American artists represented are Joseph John, Milne Rausser, George F. Bessell, who contributes a number, both of landscape and figure pictures; H. C. Biepham, George C. Lambert, Russell Smith, whose "Lake George," No. 19, is an excellent specimen of his best landscape style; E. D. Lewis, who has several characteristic landscape paintings; W. T. Richards, and J. Hamilton, who both exhibit views of Atlantic City; G. W. Nicholson, who has several very fine coast scenes, which will compare favorably with some of the best European works of the same character; and Victor Nellig, whose "Waiting Woman of the time of Louis XIV of France" is a work of much interest.

Among the European pictures are several very superior performances of O. and A. Achenbach, one of the best of which is "The Wind Storm at Albano, near Rome," by O. Achenbach, a work in that artist's best manner, that will be a perpetual charm to the eye of the lucky purchaser. There are also several golden-tinted Italian scenes by Albert Flamm, two of three excellent specimens from the case of H. Herzog, and a "Moonlight Scene on the Baltic" by Jacobson that exhibits the best characteristics of that artist's style. The French genre painters are represented by some charming works, among which the most noticeable are Charles Herbsthoffer's "Fortune-Teller," No. 41; Professor Bernardo Ferrandis's "Bashful Lover," No. 43; Ladislav Backalovic's "Lady with Pet Bird," No. 43; E. Zamacola's "The Court Jester," No. 113; and a companion gem by Charles Herbsthoffer, entitled "Choosing the Sword," No. 114; H. Pocrus's "The Toilet," No. 39, and a number of others of equal merit. There are several cattle pictures, prominent among which is A. Breadell's "Sheep in an Enclosure," which is painted with a remarkable facility to nature.

This is but a brief and hasty review of this fine collection, which offers extraordinary inducements to those who wish to become possessed of genuine art works of undoubted merit. These pictures are nearly all by artists who are famous for the high character of their performances, and purchasers can scarcely make a mistake in bidding liberally on any of them. The entire collection will be sold by B. Scott, Jr., on Thursday and Friday evenings, the sale to commence at 7 1/2 o'clock.

tain is through the executive officer, whatever that may mean. We anticipate, however, that Mr. Schley (who is about as fallacious in expression as he is amusing in such antics as walking on his head before the marines at Pensacola) intends to convey the impression that he is to be the judge of the propriety or necessity of all communications—medical, surgical, theological, financial, and private—to his commanding officer. Surely the prediction of a distinguished Rear-admiral, that the executive would soon "tread so close upon the heels of the captain as to walk him over the stern of the ship," has at last been fulfilled. Indeed, to such a point has the authority of an executive officer now reached, that (as in the case of Seely) he may commit any act of atrocity or injustice with impunity, without the knowledge of his commander, since he has been made the sole "medium of communication" to him. The captain is thus degraded to a subordinate, and such an order as the one above given is a humiliating declaration of the commander's own inefficiency, and an acknowledgment that his executive is invested with such power as to leave him but the name and responsibility of command. Thus we find the power of the executive—the peripatetic mouthpiece of the commander—assuming such a position that he is enabled to issue "general orders," objects to the "interference of the captain," judges of the necessities of the several departments of the ship, and of the private and official communication of its officers, arrogating to himself the rights and privileges of a "second in command."

THE NINTH CENSUS.—Below we present a table giving the population of the different States according to the census of 1860; the highest vote ever cast; and the population in 1860, by careful estimate; and the number of Representatives which will be allotted to each State, on a basis of 333 and 890 members in a full House:—

Table with columns: State and Territory, Population in 1860, Highest vote ever cast, No. of Reps. in 1860, and No. of Reps. in 1870. Includes states like Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, etc.

On a basis of 333 members there would be one member to 173,559 people, the population being, according to the above estimate, 30,200,000, and that of the Territories and District of Columbia 600,000. In a House of 500 members, the ratio would be one member to 134,000 inhabitants. In the above table, the increase in population since 1850 is estimated at 27.76 per cent. Between the years 1850 and 1859, the increase was 35.58 per cent., and at the same rate, the population on the 1st of June next, exclusive of that of the newly acquired Territory, would be 42,620,854, or 1,830,854 in excess of the estimate. The ravages of the war, however, it is thought will reduce the increase to about the figures given in the above estimate.

THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Directors have this day declared a dividend of SEVEN DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS per share on the Stock of the Company for the last six months, which will be paid to the Stockholders or their legal representatives after the 17th instant.

WILLIAM G. BROWELL, Secretary.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LONDON AND LIVERPOOL.

SABINE, ALLEN & BULLIS, Agents, FIFTH and WALNUT STREETS.

BACHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—THIS splendid Hair Dye is the best in the world. Harmless, reliable, and permanent, does not contain lead, nor any violent poison to produce paralysis or death. Avoid the wretched and delusive preparations of cheap vendors. Dr. F. R. THOMAS, formerly operating at the Golden Dental Rooms, devotes his entire practice to the painless extraction of teeth. Office, No. 911 WALNUT STREET.

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FURNITURE, ETC. AVERILL BARLOW, Manufacturer, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in CABINET FURNITURE, FACTORY, 1196 and 1198 CHARLOTTE STREET, WAREHOUSES, NO. 1117 CHESTNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA.

Furniture at private sale, at manufacturer's prices. Auction Sales every Tuesday at 10 A. M. Consignments solicited from first-class manufacturers and dealers. All goods warranted.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

BOYS' CLOTHING. JOHN WANAMAKER'S, 818 and 820 Chestnut Street.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC. THE STAR COURSE OF LECTURES. A REPETITION OF PROF. HENRY MORTON'S GREAT LECTURE ON SOLAR ECLIPSES.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—GLOBAL CONCERT. IN AID OF THE BAPTIST HOME. SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1870, at 3 P. M.

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, NO. 125 CHESTNUT STREET. SHERIDAN'S RIDE. LIFE-SIZE PAINTING BY THE PORT ARTIST, T. BUCHANAN READ.

THE ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION OF THE TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH.

BENEFIT OF LADIES' AND PASTORS' UNION. Five Illustrated Lectures of Travel in Oriental and Bible Lands.

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, TWENTY-FIFTH and CHESTNUT STREETS.—During Lent, service every WEDNESDAY at 7 o'clock.

THE WOMAN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE will hold their Twenty-first Annual Commencement at MERCANTILE HALL on SATURDAY next.

DEPARTMENT RECEIVER OF TAXES. NOTICE.—The Receiver of Taxes of TWENTY-FIFTH WARD will be prepared to receive the Taxes of said Ward at the Lagoon Building, Frankford, on MONDAY, March 8, 9 o'clock A. M.

TREGO'S TOOTH PASTE. It is the most pleasant, cheapest and best dentifrice extant.

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DRY GOODS.

NEW SPRING GOODS FOR 1870. EDWIN HALL & CO., No. 28 SOUTH SECOND STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

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THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST. There is no poorer economy in the world than to buy poor clothing.

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EVANS & LEACH, No. 628 MARKET STREET, PHILADELPHIA. FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFE. SPLENDID MANSION OF COLONEL WALTON DWIGHT DESTROYED BY FIRE.

MARVIN'S PARLOR SAFE TRIUMPHANT!! BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Feb. 20, 1870. MESSRS. MARVIN & CO., No. 721 Chestnut street.

MARVIN & CO., 721 CHESTNUT STREET (Masonic Hall), PHILADELPHIA. 265 BROADWAY, New York, and 109 BANK STREET, Cleveland, Ohio.

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INSURANCE.

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1870. CONTINENTAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. OF NEW YORK.

Offices, Continental Buildings, Nos. 22, 24, and 26 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

No. of Policies issued in 1869. 5,775. Amount insured in 1869. \$31,246,000. Whole No. of Policies issued by Company. 30,975.

INCOME For 1869. \$1,046,952.50. DISBURSEMENTS. Including losses paid, \$164,320. \$398,001.76.

ASSETS. Cash in Banks and in Company's Office. \$100,710.85. United States Bonds. 115,350.00.

Loans on Stocks. 74,173.41. Deferred Premiums, Semi-annual and Quarterly. 807,908.91. Real Estate in New York. 294,750.00.

Total. \$3,500,102.80. Progress of Company since organization, compiled from New York official reports: Policies Issued in 1865 (6 mos.) 1405. 9,007,800.

THE CONTINENTAL thus closes and crowns the year 1869 with a record of which any company might well be proud, and now bearing the palm and prestige of unequalled success, and in view of the following important changes and improvements in their plan of doing business, which have so recently been made, they enter upon 1870 with yet brighter auspices than have marked the opening of any previous year.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS TO Policy Holders, hereafter, is to be made upon the so-called "Contribution Plan," which has become so universally popular in this country, and which is stated by actuaries of the highest talent to be the most equitable mode of making such distribution.

THE DIVIDENDS on all Cash Policies will be available annually, after two annual premiums shall have been paid, and will be applied to the reduction of the third annual premium, or to the purchase of additional insurance.

THE STOCKHOLDERS, having become convinced that the welfare of the Company and its Policy Holders require it, have unanimously consented that in future dividends upon stock shall be limited to seven per cent. (legal interest), thus making the CONTINENTAL A FULLY MUTUAL COMPANY.

Special attention is directed to these important improvements, as evincing conclusively a determination to leave nothing undone which may add to the advantages already possessed by the CONTINENTAL, thus increasing its popularity as a medium for insurance.

PRESIDENT, JUSTUS LAWRENCE. SECRETARY, J. F. ROGERS. OFFICE, No. 425 CHESTNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA. To gentlemen unemployed desirous of engaging in Insurance, liberal arrangements will be made with WINTER & JEWELL.