

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

TAXING INCOMES.

There is no doubt that the popular sentiment is very much opposed to the income tax, but we are sure that the feeling is an impulsive one, and not at all based on deliberate reflection. The tax is unpopular in its operation, chiefly by reason of the inexperience of the people with regard to taxation in general. It is to be remembered that previous to the war we had little or no public debt, and a very economical governmental machinery.

It is this cheerful and submissive temper which calls most loudly for careful consideration, and it is a responsibility which falls upon a class which can best afford to pay, and which would otherwise evade their proper contribution to the general requirement of revenue. Yet while the imposition is eminently wise and salutary, it is one which is inevitably unpopular, simply because it falls upon a class who largely control popular sentiment.

The income tax is the most clamored about of any, for the reason that it has been the worst administered, besides being excessive in its rate. The regulations which have been made with reference to its collection have been inquisitorial and exceedingly offensive; but there is no doubt that the amount realized from it has been a clear gain to the mass of tax-payers, for the reason that it would not have been realized from any other source.

Perhaps on the general ground of the incapacity which has been so painfully evident since Governor Raymond's death, the original misrepresentation here might be excused. But the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mr. Frothingham's Society waited upon the publisher of the Times, who is now (to the amusement of all who notice him) masquerading in Governor Raymond's old clothes as its editor, with the transcript of the stenographers' notes. Yet to this day the Times persists in its bold and foolish slander.

Sunday is to be in the new state of law, the result in the minds of good citizens will not be favorable to this Democratic change. It will be observed, however, that the Attorney-General of the State has given an opinion that the sale of liquor on Sundays is still prohibited by law, and it is to be hoped that before another Sunday shall invite a murder carnival the Mayor and the police authorities will take steps to enforce the law, whatever it may be.

"YOU LIE! YOU VILLAIN! YOU LIE!" From the N. Y. Tribune. The organs of the slums, and their feeble imitators among journals not respectable, but having lost their hold upon respectable readers, and now frantically appealing to the slums for support, continue to tell so many lies in their present spasmodic defense of the family relation against the onslaughts of the respectable part of the community, that it seems hardly worth while to expose them. Here, for example, is an instance of the lie, pure and simple, persisted in with an earnestness that shows the poor liar must think there is gain in it.

What the Times reported, what Mr. Frothingham should be so rejoiced that the husband and wife could not be so jealous of each other, and that each should have the full privilege and right to property, to the use of talents, to the enjoyment of the proceeds of labor, so that the marriage bond should be a head-bond, and not a legal one only; so that men and women should be bound together by their hopes, and beliefs, and trusts, and affections, and suppose that some knowledge could be imparted by which the conditions of wholesome, healthy, happy marriage should be understood; that marriages should not be frequently the result of mere whim, impulse, or caprice, but should be the result of thoughtful and conscientiousness.

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CHARITABLE BLACK-MAIL. From the N. Y. World. Moral Chicago is disgusted at two recent occurrences in that city. Number one, that Mme. Rosa would not be interviewed by some ladies of its first families; number two, that Mme. Rosa's business agent would not consent to her singing in concert or in opera for an orphan asylum belonging to the city; that gentleman assigning as reasons that Mme. Rosa had just lost her only mother, and that she was hoarse. Now, if indignant Chicago is not satisfied with these reasons—which are sufficient to excuse any public singer—will it reflect that even under the guise of charity it has no right to "black-mail" any actor or cantatrice. If Parepa-Rosa has received immense sums in Chicago, as the papers there have the good taste to assert in aggravation of her crime, it should be remembered that it was fairly earned, for Chicago never was known to contribute largely to anyone's fortune without obtaining beforehand what it considered to be a full equivalent for its outlay.

It would certainly have been a gracious act for Mme. Rosa to have sung for the orphans of Chicago. There are high precedents in her act for doing so. History has played for Brooklyn recently for an Italian priest's church; Mme. Tietjens sings for Cardinal Cullen in his Cathedral whenever she visits Dublin, and even acts as *quæstor* at some charity collection, or "presides" at a table in a charity bazaar, selling her photograph and bouquets at enormous profits to the susceptible Irish youth.

CHINESE LABOR IN TEXAS. From the Galveston Citizen. The experiment with Chinese labor in Texas has now been three months in operation, and from every point of view has proved a decided success. The testimony of President Baker and the officers of the Central Railroad, the further construction of which the first body of Chinese brought to Texas is at work, is unanimous as to the satisfactory deportment in every way of the men employed. Steady at their work, industrious when the contract hours of labor have expired, sober, frugal, willing, and mindful of the stipulations of their agreement, but exacting in the fulfillment of those in their favor, is the sum of the evidence in relation to them. They find no inconvenience in the climate, and enjoy good health thus far; nor do they anticipate any inability to stand the higher temperature of the coming summer.

THE FENIAN SCARE. From the Toronto Globe. We are unable, from the information before us, to discover the faintest gleam of Fenian bayonets along the whole line of frontier now supposed to be guarded with such jealous care by the volunteer troops of the Dominion. We say supposed, because there are indications in the telegrams that just where the Fenians ought to come the preparations are stuporously inadequate, and even of a nature to invite a successful attack. Soldiers without pants in Quebec—artillery without supports in Ontario! 'Twould make one angry if the conviction were not forced upon the mind, that after all the whole thing is bogus, and that the men who have control of affairs don't really believe in it.

led, under the protection of the military, to prey on the misfortunes of a portion of their fellow-citizens. All this that a political party might maintain possession of its ill-gotten power by means of the negro vote. For this the jewel of American liberty has been thrown down at the feet of a few hundred thousand negroes utterly ignorant of the inestimable value, heedless of the loss, and indifferent to its use. Let the procession move on.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE CAPITAL STOCK OF THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY that the 4th day of May next, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of organizing said stock and electing officers and directors, will be held at the office of the Company, No. 110 N. 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE AMENDMENT CELEBRATION. From the Harrisburg Patriot. The negroes of Pennsylvania generally devoted yesterday (April 26) to the formal celebration of the adoption of the fifteenth amendment. There was nothing in the day which distinguished it from any other in the rolling year, but with a race which has made no record in political or military achievement, the 26th of April will serve their purpose as well as any of those which have been made memorable in the history of other races.

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