

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

AN INSIDE VIEW OF PARIS.

By balloon express a special correspondent inside of Paris furnished us the very interesting report given on Monday to our readers of the condition of things in the city under the siege, day by day, from the 19th of September to the 5th inst., inclusive. From this diary it appears that on the 19th of September a detachment of Gardes Mobiles and Zouaves, after a three hours' fight, had been defeated outside the walls, and that these "soldiers, flying into Paris, spread great consternation among the people, who filled the streets; that the reds had prepared to avail themselves of the first serious defeat to seize the Government; that "the telegraph wires to Brest and New York have been cut, and Paris is now completely isolated from the rest of the world; and that "many foreigners have been arrested, a number of them charged with being spies." A gloomy exhibit, this, of demoralization, divisions, conspiracy, and distrust.

On the 20th of September numerous parties, under various devices, attempted to get away from the city, but in every case they failed. The German investment round a circuit of thirty miles was found complete and tight as a drum. "Many of the shops were shut and jewelry has entirely disappeared from the show windows and bazaars." A bad sign. September 21, the anniversary of the republic of 1792, a proclamation is issued in honor of the event. "Rumors of an armistice sent the funds up, and immense relief is evident in the public mind." No wonder, for "murderers have broken loose and are robbing in every direction," and "Paris is encumbered with people utterly destitute of all means, in consequence of the stoppage of all work." Nearly half a million of armed men in the city of all sorts. On the 22d we find provisions getting dear, milk, butter and vegetables getting scarce, and the cost of fuel enormous. All the newspapers published on half sheets. No news from the outside world since Sunday last. A suggestive picture of "the mysteries and miseries of Paris" under siege.

On September 23 heavy cannonading outside all day created great excitement inside. News of Jules Favre's failure with Bismarck had a prodigious effect. The "reds" were headed off in the general cry for war to "the last ditch." Very little gas used, and at midnight Paris is as still as a graveyard. "Can such things be" in Paris, where the fun ought to be in full blast at midnight? The saloons of the Grand Hotel on the 24th are turned over to an ambulance corps, and the "statue of Napoleon the First has been pulled down at Corbevoie and thrown into the river." The Parisians have had enough of the Bonapartes. Provisions are getting so high that riots and plunder are feared. The new opera house is opened for the distribution of food to the poor, and (October 1) "the smallpox is rapidly increasing thereby adding one more to the horrors of the siege." On the 3d Gambetta says to Picard, "The proper place for us is Tours. We must make up our minds to venture out in a balloon. It is our only means of getting out." We know what followed. Gambetta did get off in a balloon, but it was a narrow escape. He reports Paris as tranquil and resolute, that her provisions still hold out, that half a million of armed men are within the walls for her defense, and that the women are making a million of cartridges a day.

Now, to reduce all these details to a few hard facts, what is the condition of Paris under this siege? There are two millions of men, women, and children within the walls on a limited supply of provisions. From day to day this supply is so far diminished as to lessen the amounts distributed and to increase the price of everything nearer and nearer to the point of starvation to thousands. What, then, does it signify that there are three thousand cannon mounted and five hundred thousand armed men within the walls for the city's defense, if the city is so reduced in its supplies that within a month it must capitulate or make a desperate sortie, in order to procure food, or suffer the terrible extremities of starvation.

A note from the Prussian Government on this subject says that if the city resolves to hold out till starved into submission there are two millions of people to whom the Prussian army would be unable to supply food for a single day; that there is nothing eatable left within several days' march of Paris, and that consequently in the extremity suggested hundreds of thousands of those people must starve.

One of two things, therefore, may be very shortly looked for—a desperate sortie from those five hundred thousand armed men in Paris upon the German line of investment, or a capitulation, and we may, perhaps, have both. We look first, however, for a desperate sortie and a bloody engagement.

THE WAR AND THE COTTON CROP.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

While every week of European war and business derangement buoy the hopes of the wheat-grower and sustains his price, in the same ratio is cotton depressed. The declaration of hostilities in July, followed by the amazing vigor of the French advance and the collapse of the French armies, has made it more and more certain that thousands and thousands of spindles must cease to run; that millions who had money to buy cloth last year will have no money this year. Navigation became timorous and capital over-cautious. The result is just what all the South feared—cotton hardly over a shilling a pound—in fact, less than 12 cents, gold. It is now quite well ascertained that cotton gives no profit worth mentioning when the price goes below 15 cents, and none at all when only 10 cents is paid for good middling. At the New Orleans fair in April the cost of a pound of cotton was discussed, and the conclusion reached that on the best alluvial soils, in a good season, and with close management, 10 cents will make a pound. But on the average upland, and with the average economy, the planter loses who does not receive 15 cents. Southern prosperity, which for two years has gone beyond all precedent in the days of the old regime, has received a blow: the planter is disheartened, the merchants are afraid to buy, and Southern goods are gathering dust in the lofts of New York warehouses.

We have again and again counseled the cotton-growing States that a devotion such as they have given to a single product, for marketing which they must look to foreign countries, is bad economy, and can result in no lasting and permanent thrift. A community that lives by cotton only, or wheat only, or tobacco, or rice, or sugar, will run over a great surface with a low and exhaustive tillage. Nothing is returned to the soil for

crops taken off. Prosperity is measured by dollars that come over-seas—not by such true tests as the condition of roads, houses, bridges, churches, and stock. A foreign market is a precarious market. When it is good it throws abundance of spending-money into the planter's pocket, and he scatters it for things that perish with the using. He buys a saddle-horse from Kentucky, a carriage in New York; his family indulge in expensive silks, rare china, and velvet carpets.

Then comes a crash; the merchant has advanced several thousands on a crop that hardly pays for picking, and holds a mortgage on the land. Expenses must be reduced, the old luxuries are partly abandoned, and retrenchment throws a gloom over the family and broods over the neighborhood. Another year the price goes up, and with it the profession of living. Thus agriculture, instead of proceeding with the wise calmness and grand uniformity of nature, becomes a speculation, almost a game. If the planter becomes a gamster, what wonder that the merchant, the lawyer, the politician, follows in his wake, and the whole social fabric is convulsed by a sudden telegram from London? Cannot our Southern brethren see that a composed, well based, established, yet progressive civilization is inconsistent with their misplaced confidence in a single product? and will they not take a lesson from the gloomy experience of this year, and no longer prop all their hopes on a cotton bale? Though the planter makes only his living this year, he is by no means poor. The crops of '68 and '69 paid him handsome returns, and he can command the means for engaging in varied culture and a diversified industry.

First of all, he should arrange to produce all the wheat, all the corn, oats, pork, and beef he consumes. He should examine new methods and learn whether his long sunny summers cannot do something more for him than merely to open a boll of cotton. He can grow figs and dry them; he can raise sweet potatoes in large quantities, pare and slice them, and, by drying in a kiln, give the soldier and the sailor and the poor of cities cheap and nutritious food. On his rough land the Angora goat will prosper. His forests can be made profitable for bark, for lumber, and for timber. On his sunny southern slopes the grape will gather swarms. This his land will become attractive, and its value will greatly enhance. If the adversity of this year can be made to utter an impressive lesson on true thrift for the South, the cloud that now overshadows their industry really has a silver lining.

ROME AND ALSACE.

From the Pall Mall Gazette.

By the occupation of the territory composing the Roman State the political consolidation of Italy is completed. It would be idle to assert that all the steps by which this great achievement has been carried through have been in harmony with morality as understood between Government and Government; yet the self-respect of the Italian people has been preserved by their strong sense of a higher right entitling those who have acted in their name to do all they have done. The consciousness of a unity in the Italian people has produced a conviction of their moral right to form one political aggregate, and to give to it such constitutional forms as the majority of Italians should prefer. No inquiry can be more important for various reasons at this moment than an inquiry into the source of this overpowering consciousness of unity. It has assuredly not grown out of common political history, for not to speak of modern times, there never was a period at which Italy was a country with Rome for her capital, for Rome was always the capital either of less or of more than Italy. Nor has this remarkable feeling arisen from unity of race. Nothing is more certain than that the Italians are not of the same race, or of them are doubtless descended from races kin to the citizens of the world, which conquered the world, but vast numbers could only trace their pedigree to the great gangs of slaves, swept together from the corners of the earth, who filled the households or tilled the gigantic estates of the wealthy Romans. The population of the North of Italy is mainly Celtic, that of the extreme south has in it Greek, Arabian, and Norman ingredients; and everywhere at the top there must be a thick stratum of German origin. The true unity of Italy is the result of the unity of language; it is comparatively modern, and consists in a common mental history, Italian learning, Italian science, Italian poetry, Italian painting, Italian music, and Italian architecture, have been practically common for many centuries to all the countries now forming the kingdom, and out of these has been shaped the unity of the Italian people.

It is worth taking the real origin of Italian unity into consideration when we are asked to assent to that German claim to Alsace and Lorraine which is perhaps at this moment being settled in one sense or the other. That too, is a claim alleged by the morally founded on unity. The unity is not a language, which is allowed to have degenerated into a patois in these provinces; it is a unity of race, supposed to be shown by a former common tongue. What is really meant by unity of race beyond a certain community of language is not the less indistinctly understood because the words are nowadays common in men's mouths; those who talk with most emphasis about races and nationalities would probably hesitate to lay down that all whom they include under a particular name have sprung from the loins of the same savage patriarch. What is the important question, whether unity of race or language has produced community of mental history. Now, it is certain that Alsace and Lorraine have had no part or share in the intellectual development of Germany. The Reformation was the great intellectual achievement of Germany, but Alsace and Lorraine have long been fervently Catholic. German literature only came into existence when they were French, and not long before the events occurred which made them intensely and fanatically proud of being French. The mental history of these provinces is in fact French, and it is now too late to make it otherwise. They have already given several great names to French art and literature, and their admiration is commanded exclusively by French models. As for the political history of the population, it is of even later origin than their intellectual history, for it began in 1789. Their power of speaking a broken German does not produce sympathy with a single German idea.

Considering what the exploits of German generals have been, it would be highly prophetic to question their opinion that the annexation of these provinces would give them a nearly impregnable military frontier; and we are not satisfied that M. Rannan is right in asserting that France, if she retained Alsace and Lorraine, would easily reconcile herself to Germany, while she would never forgive their loss. But there is one aspect of the subject on which English authority is better than any other. Englishmen may claim to be heard by Germans when they say

that the possession of these provinces would be a very serious misfortune to those heretics which Germany appears to be now sure of obtaining. The Germans seem to have persuaded themselves that they can re-Germanize Alsace and Lorraine by careful administration. Yet this process has been going on for long years in the Austrian States, and the present dangers of the Austrian empire arise from the fact that the attempts of the German bureaucracy to produce a uniform political whole have failed miserably even in those Slavonic provinces which have no mental history at all and little more than a pretence of political history. Not even the political institutions of Hungary seem to be likely to prove material so stubborn and unalleable as the French structure of society in Alsace and Lorraine. We cannot doubt that the new provinces would have to be governed as Posen is governed, only under vastly greater difficulties. Now we Englishmen have a world of experience on this subject from our connection with Ireland. We shall never give it up so long as we exist as a nation, and, indeed, we should cease to be a nation if we lost it. But at the same time we cannot help feeling, for the political rashness of a nation which should take to itself a sort of Ireland, save under pressure of overwhelming political necessity. It is not that nowadays we find it difficult to be just or generous to Ireland; the misfortune which it entails upon us is loss of confidence in our own political, social, and economical ideas. But a nation like ours, old in freedom, can find its most cherished principles falsified in a part of its territory, and yet not suffer half the injury which a similar misfortune would occasion to a community which is taking its first steps in political liberty.

Nor need we hesitate to say that those difficulties which we trust we have nearly overcome in our government of Ireland would be aggravated tenfold in the case of the new German provinces. The great obstacle to success in administering Alsace and Lorraine, if they remained (as we think they would) permanently discontented, would be the proximity of France. France may be innocently weakened and impoverished; but nothing will make Frenchmen cease to be a great literary people. They may no longer fear her armies, and yet her wit and her passion may be to the last degree formidable. It is hard to govern a thoroughly discontented dependency under any circumstances, but infinitely harder to govern it under the eyes of a bitterly critical neighbor who has the ear of the world. However much we may recognize the great qualities of the German people, we cannot but see that there are many German peculiarities which a thoroughly unfriendly censor may succeed in so describing as to make them very repulsive and hateful. Neither the kings nor the nobles nor the bourgeoisie nor the literary men nor the middle class are exempt from weaknesses which it would cost little to French criticism to make the sport of the world. But the great weapon of French literature would be the aggravation of actually existing discontent. In these days of universal publicity there is no nation which does not suffer extreme discomfort from the knowledge that she is suspected of oppressing a province or a dependency. Great Britain is singularly callous to foreign opinion, and yet the approval of "intelligent foreigners" was promised us as the reward of recent Irish legislation of which a good deal was not to our national taste. Russia takes manifest pains to seem unconcerned as to what Europe may think of her administration of Poland; yet the signs of *malaise* may be clearly read in the affected nationalism of her literature and her press. But discontents which are merely an annoyance to a despotically governed country, or to a country of assured freedom, may prove the cruellest of trials in the infancy of free government.

MUST WE HAVE A NEW PARTY? From the N. Y. Sun.

In the old time the Whigs made a great outcry against President Jackson for bringing, as they alleged, the patronage and power of the government into conflict with the freedom of elections. The old General had rather arbitrary notions of discipline, political as well as military, and a disobedience of orders emanating from competent authority was summarily punished. By contending that men in the employment of the Government could not in equity and good conscience resist its measures. In other words, he insisted, not only that his Cabinet should be a unit, but that inferior agents of the Government should not obstruct the harmonious operations of the administration. The opposition, headed by Clay, Calhoun, and Webster, nearly broke down General Jackson by seizing upon this announcement of his policy and determination, and denouncing what was charged to be usurpation and tyranny. The country was electrified by eloquence steadily being prescribed on account of their alleged dereliction of duty, and by a most unparliamentary and manifest honesty of purpose carried him triumphantly through the terrible ordeal. Can Grant maintain himself in a similar exigency? Without knowledge or experience in civil affairs, with no comprehension of the condition or wants of the country, no aptitude for the duties of his high office, surrounded by flatterers who play upon his weaknesses and direct the course of the Government with reference to their own selfish schemes, it is not surprising that his administration should be steadily falling into contempt.

The President is constantly and openly interfering with elections in the States, and has no hesitation in directing office-holders how to vote, or in threatening them with removal in case they disobey his orders. In Missouri the Republicans are divided, and Grant is bringing the whole power of the administration to bear against the strongest faction. Is it conceivable that the people will submit to this impudent dictation? In this State a similar course has been pursued. Senator Tilton and his friends have been prescribed on account of their alleged hostility to Grant's desire for a re-nomination. Can the integrity of the party be maintained under such circumstances? The thing is impossible. If the Democrats have sufficient sense and judgment to profit by their past experience, the way to victory is open and easy; but they resemble the Bourbons too much to warrant the hope that they will act wisely or well. Grant has broken down and has damaged his party immensely. Of that there can be no question. If the Democrats fall to take advantage of the situation—and it looks as though they would—they may involve upon the *Sun* to found a new party. In such a contingency we shall take care to lay the foundations broad and deep, so that the superstructure will be permanent and worthy of this country.

REACTION IN GERMANY.

From the Chicago Post.

It is impossible for the most enthusiastic defender of the course of Prussia since Sedan to deny that there are at present manifold indications of a liberal reaction in Germany. The first excitement of victory is over, and considerable afterthought has calmed the passions, and, joined to the melancholy argument of infinite desolation and mourning, has created an intense desire for peace. The iron rule of what the world has been pleased to term the most formidable military despotism now absolutely prevails throughout Germany, and it is, accordingly, somewhat difficult definitely to ascertain the exact condition of public sentiment in that country. Such of the surface indications of this change of sentiment as have been permitted to come to us, are the imprisonment of the eminent German liberal Jacoby for a most able and moderate speech, the arrest of other liberals in different parts of Germany, the opposition, although restrained, of a considerable number of the national liberals and of the Fortschritt party, and the German republican protest against the annexation of Alsace and Lorraine.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

OFFICE OF THE PHILADELPHIA AND TRENTON RAILROAD COMPANY, No. 224 S. DELAWARE AVENUE.

PHILADELPHIA, October 8, 1870.

A special meeting of the Stockholders of the Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad Company will be held at the office of the said Company, in the city of Philadelphia, at 12 o'clock noon of TUESDAY, October 25, 1870, to take into consideration an acceptance of an act of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act to authorize the Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad Company to be incorporated by this Commonwealth, accepting this act, to one vote for each share of stock," approved May 20, 1866; and also to take into consideration an acceptance of an act of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act authorizing corporations to increase their bonded obligations and capital stock," approved December 29, 1869.

By order of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad Company.

F. H. WHITE, Assistant Secretary.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE CHESTNUT HILL SAVING AND LOAN BANKING COMPANY, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE CHESTNUT STREET BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

OFFICE OF THE FRANKLIN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held this day, a semi-annual dividend of SIX PER CENT., an extra dividend of TEN PER CENT., and a special dividend of THREE PER CENT. were declared upon the capital stock, payable to the stockholders, or their legal representatives, on and after the 15th inst., clear of taxes.

MANHOOD AND YOUTHFUL VIGOR are regained by HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. 10 1 17

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE UNITED STATES BANKING COMPANY, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one million dollars, with the right to increase the same to five million dollars.

HE HOLDS THE WINNING CARDS.—When Black Diamonds are trumped, J. C. HANCOCK holds both bowers and the ace; consequently he plays a winning game. HANCOCK's Perfumery is the most perfect of its kind, and is made of the very best varieties of Lehigh and Schuylkill, carefully picked and screened, and promptly delivered to all parts of the city, by express, at the lowest rates.

ENFEBLED AND DELICATE CONSTITUTIONS, of both sexes, use HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. It will give brisk and energetic feelings, and enable you to sleep well. 10 1 17

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FOR NON-RETENTION OR INCONTINENCE of Urine, irritation, inflammation, or ulceration of the bladder or kidneys, the prostate glands, stone in the bladder, calculus, gravel or brick dust deposits, and all diseases of the bladder, kidneys, and tropical swellings, use HELMHOLD'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU. 10 1 17

THE IMPERISHABLE PERFUME.—AS A rule, the perfumes now in use have no permanency. An hour or two after their use there is no trace of perfume left. How different is the result succeeding the use of MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER! Days after its application the handkerchief exhales a most delightful, delicate, and agreeable fragrance. 5 1 17

TREGO'S TOOTHBRUSH TOOTHWASH. It is the most pleasant, cheapest and best dentifrice extant. Warranted free from injurious ingredients. It preserves and whitens the Teeth! It invigorates and cleanses the Gums! It purifies and Perfumes the Breath! It prevents Accumulation of Tartar! It cleanses and Purifies Artificial Teeth! It is a Superior Article for Children! Sold by all druggists and dentists.

A. M. WILSON, Druggist, Proprietor, 8 2 1000

HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU GIVES health and vigor to the frame and blood to the pallid cheek. Debility is accompanied by many alarming symptoms, and if no treatment is submitted to, consumption, insanity, or epileptic fits ensue. 10 1 17

THE GLORY OF MAN IS STRENGTH.—Therefore the nervous and debilitated should immediately use HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. 10 1 17

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SHATTERED CONSTITUTIONS RESTORED BY HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. 10 1 17

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