

New-York Daily Tribune

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1867.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS. No notice can be taken of communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer.

On the second and sixth pages of to-day's issue will be found the Money and Family Markets, Book Reviews, and Notices of the April Magazines.

The bill to make eight hours a legal day's work was ordered to a third reading in the Assembly yesterday, by a vote of 60 to 13.

The new Conference Committee upon the Constitutional Convention bill yesterday agreed to amend it so as to elect delegates by Senate districts, and omit the clause allowing colored men to vote.

The Republican Union State Central Committee met at Albany on Thursday and adopted a resolution calling conventions for the 8th day of April.

We commend to the earnest attention of the country the well considered preamble and resolve submitted to the Senate yesterday by Gen. Wilson of Massachusetts.

The bill for Southern relief now goes to the President for signature, the Senate having yesterday concurred in the House amendment by 29 Yeas to 9 Nays.

The demand for the removal of Collector Smythe, reported in a resolution by Mr. Hulburd of the Committee on Expenditures, was yesterday re-shaped in an amendment by Mr. Stevens.

The proposed repeal of so much of the Bankruptcy law as requires the Chief-Justice to appoint Registers of Bankruptcy came under debate in the Senate yesterday.

A dispatch from Galveston informs us of the departure of Marshal Bazaine and the remainder of the French troops from Vera Cruz on the 13th inst.

The Assembly has ordered to a third reading the bill to incorporate the "Law Gazette Company."

The registration of voters in Connecticut is completed, and if, as we fear, the Republicans in some counties have not entered the names of all their voters, they must make up for that neglect by hard work.

The Arion Ball. The annual Grand Fancy Dress Ball of the Arion Society will take place on Wednesday evening, the 27th, at the Academy of Music.

The Whisky Frauds. On Thursday, Deputy Collector E. E. Darley seized a distillery belonging to Thomas Lawlor, on Barclay street.

"vote for Hawley"—but the pretense that the Democratic party is the party of the working-men should be clearly, as may be easily, exposed. Every voter should be addressed, and in every school district our full vote should be polled.

STATE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM. The present Constitution of our State, formed in 1846, has one excellent new provision—that which prescribes that a vote shall be taken every twentieth year thereafter, to decide whether the People are satisfied with the "Constitution as it is."

NEW WAR CLOUDS IN EUROPE. The conclusion of a military treaty between Prussia, Bavaria, and Baden, seems to have alarmed the French Government.

THE SKEAN MURDER CASE—VERDICT OF MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE. John J. Skean's trial for murder of the first degree, which was commenced on Thursday, was concluded yesterday and a verdict rendered.

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NEGRO VOTING. How meanly and basely a Copperhead can invent the truth, even while pretending not to be a Copperhead, is seldom more strikingly shown than in the following editorial from The Sun.

"The People of the Radicals. A new trouble has suddenly presented itself to the Radical leaders. They have lately had their eyes so firmly fixed upon the attainment of Negro Suffrage that they never cast a glance ahead to see what the freedmen would do if that prize were granted to them.

"More than twenty years ago, 'the Radicals' tried hard to have the Right of Suffrage in this State based on Manhood irrespective of Color. The Tribune did its best to that end; what did The Sun? We stood at the poll of our election district all day urging all to vote for Impartial Suffrage; but not one Democrat could be induced so to vote; and we were beaten in the State by 234,336 votes against 5,406.

"In 1853, the question of Impartial Suffrage was again raised by Gov. Morgan, who urged that our State Constitution be conformed in this respect to the fundamental principle of a democratic commonwealth. Two successive legislatures, being Republican, perfected such an amendment, against the utmost efforts of the Democratic minority; and it was submitted to the People for ratification at the Presidential Election of 1860; when the Democrats took open ground against it, and beat it in the City by 65,082 votes to 10,483, and in the State by 337,984, to 197,503.

"If France desired allies against Prussia, none other were left than those minor Governments referred to in the Cable dispatch of yesterday. All these Governments are filled with fear at the aggrandizement of Prussia. The press of Holland and Belgium, in particular, have shown a hostility against Prussia well calculated to call forth aggressive designs if none existed before.

"It is apparent that the relation of Prussia to its Western neighbors already constitutes a serious complication. This complication becomes more serious in proportion to the greater progress that is made in the consolidation of German unity. There is, moreover, an immediate cause of dispute, which may at any moment be used by either of the opposite parties for bringing on a conflict—the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg.

"The Government is making active preparations for an Indian campaign this Spring, and there is a prospect that in some quarters, at all events, the war will be sharp and bloody. A force of 2,000 men, under Gen. Gibbon, is ready to move into the country about the head waters of the Powder and Yellowstone Rivers, where the Sioux have long been in a chronic state of hostility.

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railroad—the lowest track (double) to be sunk below the surface for the passage of freight trains; the middle, upon the surface, for horse-cars, stopping on every block; and the upper, to be elevated on posts and swiftly traversed by passenger trains which only stop every mile or so, to let off passengers, who may finish their journey on the horse-road if they choose. This road crosses the east and west streets on their surface; but stops only on the blocks between them. And, as the houses may be left untouched above the second story, the road will, for the most part, be completely under cover, thus shielded from snow, ice, rain, and sun, and so rendered remarkably inviting. We have seen no rival project that seemed calculated to effect so much general good at the cost of so little individual harm.

Now hear the most cogent of the notions whereby its realization is resisted: Says Mr. C. F. Southmayd: "They propose to make a street twenty-five feet wide, running between Fifth and Sixth streets, from Waverly place to Central Park. They have hinted that this line will be in the center line of the block, but they are bound to do so, and may alter it as they please. If this plan is adopted, there will never have been such a splendid opportunity for the levying black mail vested in a company."

—That is to say: Instead of running the road on the rear of the lots, where \$100 per lineal foot will pay for the land required, they may run it where they will have to pay \$2,000 per lineal foot, and be immensely impeded and embarrassed by the necessity of tearing down whole blocks of houses and stores! Is not this a paltry bugbear?

As to "levying black mail," it is a process with which railroad men are tolerably familiar (witness the Hudson River); but they are not the leviers but the levied-upon. Who does not know this?

He proceeds: "One of the advantages, they say, will be that the underground road will be shallow, not going nearly so low down as the other plans. Thus it will be a cheap road, on the usual plan, and will certainly be a grave matter. What a pity the projected road is not as profound as Mr. Southmayd's wit!

He continues: "Then they have the street-cars on the surface, and the completion of the whole scheme, the road running through the second story, a 25-foot strip, of which the company determined to make as much profit as possible, for the street-cars will be let for lots above the line, which may be let for saloons, saloons, and such like."

—Well; why not? They pay not only for the ground, but for the buildings as they stand; they only need the two lower stories; why should they not preserve and rent the higher? Will not the owners of the houses on either side be glad to have them thus guarded against the possibility of being dug down in the construction or shaken down by the working of the railroad? Must not material for fault-finding be scarce, even in Mr. Southmayd's own opinion?

He goes on: "As to the remuneration to those whose homes will be removed for the purpose of building the road, there will be a commission; and thus it will be a grinding committee; the persons will be theoretically paid, and few will receive five per cent. of their value. As to the houses to be razed, they will be razed in full, and the lots will be let for saloons, saloons, and such like."

—We trust the road will run through the tier of houses next to Mr. Southmayd's, and that he will thus be shamed into offering his for rent or sale. Is there a mortal green enough to imagine that he will offer it even ten per cent. below its present value? We, surely, are not. We shall expect to see him ask an enhanced price because of its convenient proximity to the great Transit Railroad.

—If we could only make room, we would gladly quote further, and from all the lawyers who made speeches at the anti-Transit meeting. Suffice it that the reasons adduced are not a whit less fantastic than those above cited.

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