

Evening Telegraph

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1866.

Meeting of the Union State Central Committee.

REDFORD, Pa., December 26, 1865.—The Union State Central Committee of Pennsylvania will meet in one of the Committee Rooms of the House of Representatives in Harrisburg, on Friday, the 19th of January, A. D. 1866, at 3 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of fixing the time for holding the next State Convention and transacting such other business as may be presented for consideration.

Our State Legislature—Its Duties and its Privileges.

THERE assembled this morning at the State Capital the Legislature which is to guide our State through that depressing period which always succeeds a time of extraordinary excitement. Our civil polity, like the human frame, must have a depression in correspondence with the previous unusual exertions, and it is the gravest duty of a legislator to recuperate the strength of a Commonwealth without the use of unwholesome tonics. Such will be among the duties of the members of our State Legislature, and to successfully perform it they must exercise discretion, possess ability, and have a talent and experience which we greatly doubt whether they possess.

The caucus nominations made yesterday were of course unfavorable to Philadelphia. Mr. JAMES KENNY, the nominee for Speaker of the House, and whose election took place this morning, is, of course, a member from the country, while the old Clerk and his assistants will without doubt be rechosen. In the Senate the Speaker was elected last year, so that the only officers are the Clerks, all of whom have been elected. We hope that honesty, devotion to State, not party interests, and an unswerving devotion to freedom and duty, will be the characteristics of the session. The immorality and bribery which has been too often prevalent in the capital, can be checked if the members desire. It is in their own hands whether they acquire the reputation of respected, honorable legislators, or whether they be placed upon the catalogue of their corrupt, dishonest, worthless predecessors.

Is Philadelphia to become a Japanese City? THE Japanese city of Yeddo for centuries shut up from the world. The ships and steamers of other countries never ruffled the waters of the Bay of Yokohama. In the words of a Japanese author, the following reasons are given for this seclusion:—"Confucius never spoke of gain, wishing to check the lust of it in its source. This also was the reason why my ancestors cut off all intercourse of foreign nations with Japan."

We are ashamed to write it, but no city in the world with as magnificent a harbor, as great a population as Philadelphia possesses, is as much like Yeddo. At this day, with the Delaware spreading its deep and broad waters the whole length of the city, with eight hundred thousand people crowding its shores, we are literally without direct communication with the other parts of our own country. A few lines form the exception, but this is the rule, and New York and Baltimore control the steam coastwise trade of the Union. This disgrace is the greater, because Philadelphia at one time was as far superior to New York in commerce as she is now in manufactures. How we allowed the power we possessed to pass away into weakness, it would be useless to inquire; the question forced upon us is whether we can regain it.

Certainly, if we would follow the Japanese, and, like CONFUCIUS, check the abuse of wealth by dispensing with it altogether, we had better continue the indifference of the past ten years; but if we believe that the city would be made happier by more prosperity, we had better make sure that the present effort to establish lines of steamships to Southern ports is successfully carried out. A number of our leading merchants have declared that Philadelphia must lose her manufacturing superiority, and cannot be developed in proportion with other cities, unless she has adequate means of transportation to accommodate and increase her business. They have held meetings, and appointed committees to raise subscriptions, and have already obtained upwards of \$400,000, for the purpose of creating lines to the principal ports of the South. They are working for the good of the entire community. We believe they have set themselves to this work as shrewd business men, who want to make a good investment; but we also give them credit for public spirit and civic pride. Their plan is before the public, and it only remains to see whether merchants and manufacturers

will sustain it. The argument in its favor is irresistible. Is it not plain that Philadelphia cannot successfully continue to compete as a seller with other cities that surpass her as a sender? Merchants abroad prefer to buy in New York or Baltimore, because thence they can get direct transportation for their goods, while here we have no steam lines, and, at cost of money and time, must send our manufactures to rival cities for exportation. And this, too, at a time when the South is becoming the great customer of the North; when her people want everything, and the competition to sell is increasing every day! There never was such an opportunity offered to Philadelphia to recover her lost trade.

But now we are locked up. The waters of the Delaware are wasted in the ocean. And while we are idle the wharves of New York are crowded with steamers, and its whole river-front is a scene of ceaseless activity. Baltimore has four steamships to Liverpool; she contemplates a line to Hamburg and to Bremen; her steamers run regularly to New Orleans and Savannah. We alone are idle. Vessels with their rich freight pass Delaware Bay as if it were the mouth of a creek, and we are not unlike the inhabitants of Yeddo, who wondered when they first beheld a fleet. Are we then to continue to degenerate, and to become at last a Japanese city in America?

Mexican Peonage—How Southern Slavery will be Re-established.

THERE are many ways of affecting an object by other than direct means. It is easy for an insolvent debtor to retain his property by making an assignment of it to his wife; so also is it easy for a people to accept the universal freedom declared by the victors, and at the same time continue slavery under a more euphonious title. The spirit which has been evinced by the South is such as to clearly indicate that were it possible the blacks would continue in a servitude as degrading as that from which the force of Northern valor has rescued them. It is, therefore, not the absence of the desire, but of the opportunity, which prevents its re-establishment. Yet with this knowledge before us, we are gradually giving into the hands of the Southern planters the power to make any provisions relative to the future of the blacks, relying on our law forbidding slavery to checkmate any oppression, and render illegal any attempt at human bondage. From letters we have received, and from the tone adopted by the Southern papers, we can entertain no doubt but that at the earliest opportunity the system of peonage, which is a characteristic of Mexico, will be transported into the Southern States.

The empire of MAXIMILIAN has set us an example as to how a Government, while it has forbidden slavery, can establish a system as conducive to tyranny and oppression as any code of servitude existing at the time of Saxon serfdom, or among the captives of the Bay of Tunis. How this can be done is shown by an able message from Secretary SEWARD, in reply to a resolution of the Senate. We will see how the plan which was adopted in Mexico worked on the 10th of September. Hon W. H. CORWIN, acting Charge d'Affaires of the United States to Mexico, forwarded to the Secretary of State a series of decrees from MAXIMILIAN relative to the status of the black emigrants who should be induced to emigrate to that country. The following regulations are the most important, as they form the framework for the establishment of peonage. Although it is declared that every person, upon touching Mexican soil, becomes free, yet the succeeding provision rendered null the original assertion. Each "laborer" is bound to join himself to a master, and to contract with him for a series of years, not less than five, nor more than ten. In return for his labor he is to receive wages, one-fourth of which are to be deposited in a bank of the employer. If he ("laborer") should become indebted to his proprietor during these ten years, he can be held in bonds until the amount of indebtedness is cancelled. By such an arrangement it is evident that with but little difficulty the whole life of the servant could be made one long bondage.

The feudal system has been transplanted to our times. The serf is compelled to attach himself to some lord, who agrees to give him a miserable pittance, and finally, in a fit of starvation and need, he sells his birthright of freedom for a mess of pottage. The same system against which the Government of the United States is protesting because of its establishment in Mexico to-day, is being gradually brought into full force within the bounds of our own territory, under aggravating circumstances.

The South, with that ability which has always characterized its leaders, immediately upon the failure of their Rebellion determined to be victorious, not by force, but by fraud, deceit, sycophancy, and unscrupulous falsehood. In this they have been successful. The Freedmen's Bureau compels the blacks to hire themselves to some master, to contract to work for him at a rate of wages totally inadequate. Should they fall in debt, which they undoubtedly will, then it is the duty of the State Legislature to make all needful laws. Of course the white contractor should not be injured by loss of money, consequently the black will have to work off his debt. As the rate he receives is not sufficient to support him, his burden, like that of Atlas, will be constantly increasing; he will never once reach to freedom, but see it gradually receding from him, despite all his efforts. In ten years the whole black population will be working off their debts, under the power of the employer, for either the must continue to labor and be oppressed, or else be arrested for debt, and spend his days in a county jail.

Thus will we have the accused system re-established over all the South. We may call it peonage, or indebtedness, or justice, or whatever soft sounding name may be desired, but it is slavery, as iniquitous and as unjust as that of Barbary or South Carolina ten years ago. Though Sa'an appear in the guise of an angel of light, yet is he as evil and as powerful as when his costume is the traditional hood and horns. Because human servitude is disguised, it is only the more dangerous, for if it appears in its native hideousness, then the Christian sentiment of our country would kill it, but when masked and sugar-coated it may be endured.

The action of the State Department in protesting against the establishment of peonage in Mexico; is proper. It is worthy of a free and liberty loving people but let charity begin at home. Let us not only save Mexico from such a curse, but be careful that while we are endeavoring to cure another we get not the disease ourselves. The cunning and darkness with which the leaders of the late insurgent States commenced their efforts, would, had it been persevered in, have secured their triumph. But drunken with their first successes, they laid aside the veil of humility, and claimed as a right what they might have got by supplication. To-day we see their designs, and warn our authorities against them. We have guaranteed freedom to an ignorant and helpless people. Let us make good our word, and not, having redeemed them from slavery, give them over to the curse of peon servitude—having dragged them from the jaws of Charybdis, dash them on the jutting of rock Scylla.

Let Justice be Done! The recent conviction of young KETCHUM, charged with the commission of a gigantic crime, and the inconsiderable punishment which a jury of his countrymen have meted out to him, indicates a leniency upon the part of the people that is neither praiseworthy nor commendable. We have arrived at a period when unscrupulous rascals who have means at their command, are licensed by law to act almost without control and freed from any responsibility. In the KETCHUM affair, a fast youth is permitted to speculate a vast sum from his own father, and the offended law visits upon him four years and six months; while in a neighboring city a poor man, with a family to support, was sentenced to the county jail for eight months for the frightful crime of appropriating a ham! In our own city, a young gentleman connected both with the bar and the military service has been twice convicted of manipulating bounty papers to his own advantage, and twice pardoned; when every day the dock of the Quarter Sessions is crowded with poor wretches only guilty of taking feloniously—something to eat. There have been within the past year or two immense bank defalcations, frauds, and swindles in this city, that have been most mysteriously covered up. One of the clerks of a prominent bank departed the city, and after being arrested, his case has quietly subsided, and sank from public view. An officer of one of our public institutions takes out of the vaults a considerable amount of coin, and the matter is hushed up by his principal refunding the sum and quashing indictments. A prominent broker absconds with \$250,000, and is never heard of more.

These are a few of the delightful uncertainties of the law. If the poor go astray and are overtaken in a fault, it is essentially important that an example should be made, not in a vindictive spirit, but for the benefit of others who may contemplate treading like devious paths. They are the Pariahs, the Ishmaels of society. Their hand is against every man's, and every man's hand is against theirs. But if a kid-gloved and brown-stone scoundrel insinuates his hand and abstracts from your safe the hard earned results of a life of toil and industry, a benevolent and magnanimous public sentiment grows maddened over youthful indiscretions, and charges the fault to an overflow of animal spirits. Not many years ago a scion of Kentucky murdered a poor schoolmaster, and a Hardin county jury excused the unfortunate act because MATT. WARD was a man of mettle and of fiery temperament.

The faith of the people is beginning to waver, and many are beginning to doubt whether trial by jury is really a public benefit. A rich rascal scarcely ever receives the just reward of his guilt; there are too many loopholes in the meshes of the law through which the most obese and bloated blackguard can escape from punishment. There is great need for an example, and we have an idea that a million-dollar thief sent to the penitentiary for twenty years would be more beneficial to the morals of the community than the conviction of a thousand shoplifters and pickpockets who lack the wherewithal to make their crimes appear venal.

The typhus fever has broken out among the animals in the Jardin d'Acclimation, Paris, and two gazelles and six yaks died of the disease. They were buried twenty feet below the surface of the ground.

There are not churches enough in Yorkshire, England, to accommodate the increasing population, although one hundred and eighty-six new ones have been erected in the diocese of Ripon during the last twenty-seven years.

A few weeks ago the vestry room of Christ Church, Watney street, London, was broken into by thieves, and all the drawers broken open, as well as the cash box in which the communion alms were kept. The money was taken, but the box was left behind.

An arm-chair of Voltaire's has lately been sold in Paris for two thousand francs. It is of highly varnished wood, square-backed, and covered with velvet, which was once green. To the arms are fixed two movable desks in Japan lacquer, which join in front and form a little table containing two drawers.

The Princess of Wales lately passed her twenty-first birthday, and the event was duly celebrated at Sandringham, her country seat, by a dinner to the peasantry of the vicinity, at which the Prince of Wales proposed his wife health. He presented the lady also on the occasion with a pair of Shetland ponies as a birthday gift. The Queen sent to her daughter-in-law an elegant bronze statue of the Prince Consort.

—John S. Rarey, the famous horse-tamer, is suffering from a severe attack of paralysis. He resides at Groveport, Ohio.

—In Minnesota, for a few days past, the railroad traffic has stopped running, the thermometer indicating 24 degrees below zero.

—The Bishop of Lincoln has come out against the pew-renting system. He thinks that the possession of pews, "leaves devotion with selfishness."

—A merchant named Westfield, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was frozen to death near Boone, on the 13th. A stage driver and a telegraph operator had their limbs frozen at the same time.

Benjamin Phinney, a wealthy farmer, at Rockport, Ill., was recently poisoned to death with strychnine by his fifth wife, a pretty girl, whom he married six weeks ago.

Henry Giles' lecture on the Compensations of War, a treatise before the public since Monday evening, by Mr. F. G. Nichols, of England, who is reading Mr. Giles' lecture for his benefit.

—The Leavenworth papers say that the Directors of Butterfield's Overland Despatch Company have decided to place a strong force of regular, well-armed men on their Smoky Hill route, for the protection of their coaches, trains, passengers, stock, etc.

—Among the hard-working officials is General Spinner, United States Treasurer, who is at his desk early and late, often eating his meals in the Treasury, and always sleeping there. The General has addressed a circular to the heads of Bureaus, complaining that errors of clerks often occasion such delays to the persons presenting the incorrect accounts, besides much labor in his office, or their correction. He has permission to commence on the 1st of January to keep a record in his office of all errors, embracing all the particulars in regard to their concurrence that can be ascertained. A report will be made up at the close of each month for the inspection of the Secretary, and the head of each Bureau will be notified of the mistakes made by the clerks of that Bureau.

A bill favored by the regulars is to be introduced in Congress. It provides for an army of 100,000 men. Regulars, infantry and cavalry, to be three battalions, 800 men each, 2400 maximum strength. Artillery to have 12 batteries to each regiment. This bill provides for a reorganization of the staff. The heads of four chief bureaus—Adjutant, Inspector, Quartermaster, and Commissary—to be major-generals; the other brigadiers, Staff vacancies to be filled from the line officers having the right to apply for such, and passing, as in the French service, through a certain period of service in such a rank. The grand staff is to consist of one general, four lieutenant-generals, and four major-generals. The army to be divided into four corps. The territory into four divisions. Of course these latter to be commanded by the lieutenant-generals. Brevets of this grade to be limited to 1st pay. The pay is to be arranged so that all allowances be merged in the pay proper. The general to receive a salary equivalent to that now received by Grant's \$13,000. The lieutenant-generals about \$8000. The major-generals, \$5000. The brigadier-generals, \$3500. Colonels, \$3000, and so on down to second lieutenants, whose pay is to be \$1600. Staff officers will receive additional pay from \$50 to \$200, according to grade and rank. Such is the outline of the proposed bill.

COPARTNERSHIPS.

LIMITED PARTNERSHIP OF CHARLES H. HAMRICK.—We, the undersigned, have formed a limited or special partnership under the provisions of the several acts of Pennsylvania relating thereto, upon the following terms and conditions: First, The said partnership to be conducted under the name of CHARLES H. HAMRICK.

NOTICE.—JAMES H. WILSON AND EDWARD HURDSON have this day been admitted as partners in our store. The firm name will be EVANS, HASSALL & CO.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT THE PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between WILLIAM MILLWARD and W. WISEBROKER, under the name of WILLIAM MILLWARD & WISEBROKER, is hereby dissolved, by mutual consent.

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 1, 1866.—WE have this day associated with them F. LEIBRANT, J. B. and will continue the same as heretofore.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

OFFICE OF "THE COMMERCIAL RECORD," No. 12 North Third Street. The COMMERCIAL RECORD, of 1865, will be published early in January, and can be furnished to subscribers at the rate of \$1.00 per annum.

GIRARD NATIONAL BANK.—The Annual Meeting of Directors will be held at the Banking House, on Wednesday, the 15th day of January, 1866, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.

SECOND NATIONAL BANK, PHILADELPHIA.—The Annual Meeting of Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, on Wednesday, the 15th day of January next, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M.

These truly beautiful instruments are made only by Mason & Hamlin; are imitations in their quality of tone, and have attained a celebrity in this country and Europe never equalled by any other instrument.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

OFFICE OF THE MAHONING COAL COMPANY, No. 308 WALNUT STREET, Philadelphia. At the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Mahoning Coal Company, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. Proposals will be received at this office until MONDAY next, the 8th instant, by the conveyance of proposals by VAN from the several POLICE STATIONS, from January 15, 1866, to December 31, 1866, in accordance with the provisions of an ordinance approved December 22, 1865, entitled "An ordinance to make an appropriation to the Police of the City of Philadelphia."

OFFICE OF THE UNION PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 308 S. FOURTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, December 30, 1865. The Coupons of the Bonds of this Company falling due on the 1st of January, 1866, will be paid on presentation at the office of JACOB E. RIDGWAY, Banker, No. 57 S. THIRD STREET.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY. 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, payable on the 15th day of January, 1866, at the Office of the Company, No. 238 S. THIRD STREET.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD COMPANY, Office No. 27 South Fourth Street. DIVIDEND NOTICE.—The Treasurer of this Company will be closed on Saturday, December 16, and reopened on Tuesday, January 2, 1866.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL VIEW OF MARRIAGE.—Containing nearly 800 pages, and 130 fine Plates and Engravings of the Anatomy of the Human Organ in a State of Health and Disease, with a Treatise on Early Marriages, their Deploable Consequences upon the Mind and Body, and a full and complete description of the only rational and successful mode of cure, as shown by the reports of cases treated. A truthful adviser to the young and those contemplating matrimony, to remove all doubts of their physical condition. Sent free of postage to any address, by addressing DR. CROSBY, No. 31 ALDEN Lane, Albany, N. Y.

DINING-ROOM.—F. LAKEMEYER, CAREY'S Alley, would respectfully inform the Public generally that he has recently opened up in this place a comfortable and every respect for the accommodation of guests. He has opened up a large and commodious Dining-Room in the second story, and has furnished it with BRANDIES, WINES, WHISKY, &c., &c., SUPERIOR BRANDS. 1115

JUST PUBLISHED.—By the Physicians of the New York MUSEUM, the 2nd Edition of their new and valuable work, entitled "FOUR LECTURES, PHRENOLOGY OF MARRIAGE. To be had free, or for four stamps, by addressing Secretary New York Museum of Anatomy, No. 618 BROADWAY, New York. 7117

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.—A useful, valuable, and delightfully acceptable present for Christmas would be a bottle of that fragrant Hair Tonic and Beautifier, Retrouvey's Turkish Bandonolien. What can be more acceptable than anything that will beautify that which restores nature's decay by stopping the hair from falling out, restoring its natural color making it to grow in luxuriance and beauty, assist in putting up according to the present style and fashion and to put it in place? This, Retrouvey's Turkish Bandonolien Hair Tonic will do, and for proof we refer you to any person who has tried it. It is acknowledged to be the beautifier of the age, the only Hair Tonic and Restorer worthy of the name. In Turkey in France, in England, in America, everywhere where the Bandonolien is known, it is pronounced the "ne plus ultra" of Hair Preparations. Remember, it is free from all metallic poisons, that are contained in most Hair Colors and dressings. It is the extract of many flowers and herbs, beautifully put up, an ornament to the Toilet.

For sale by all Druggists and Perfumers, Wholesale, JOHNSTON, HOLLOWAY & COWDEN, DYOTT & CO., Principal Depot for United States and Canada. JAMES PALMER & CO., No. 439 Market street, Philadelphia. 12 5 tuth3m

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IMPORTANT

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ON LANDER HILL, RICHARDS LEDGE.....3000 FEET, W. E. JOHNSON LEDGE....."....." COPPER HARBOR....."....." N. S. PENNOCK....."....." VALLEY VEIN....."....." TAYLOR....."....." FARRELL....."....." TYSON....."....." MACKINAW....."....." MINER'S JOY....."....." CHLOIRE....."....." SULP URET....."....." UNION IRISH....."....." MARQUETTE....."....." HOUGETON....."....." QUAKER CITY....."....." ASSOCIATED....."....." ANNA SWAN....."....." 40,000 "

Consisting of Eighteen different Ledges or Mines, and amounting in the aggregate to about 40,000 feet, together with the

HOPKINS TUNNEL, Which is already opened about 200 feet. Work upon this Tunnel is now being prosecuted with the utmost vigor, and will CUT IN ITS COURSE ALL THE ABOVE-NAMED LEDGES, and also the Revenue, Provident, Savage, Morgan and Muncey, Hooker, North Star, and in fact all Ledges situated upon Lander Hill. These properties have been secured from the original locators, and only could be done by giving them a large interest in the Company. Uniting these properties with the Revenue Extension without increasing the Capital Stock, or the price per share, stamps this as one of the best enterprises ever offered to the public.

Samples of the Ore and Maps of the Property, and for further particulars, apply at the Office, No. 55 S. THIRD STREET, 12 29 4p

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