THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH .- PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1866.

Evening Telegraph

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To insure the Intertion of Advertisements in all of our Editions, they must be forwarded to our office not later than 10 o'clock each Morning.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1866.

The Valuation of Property at Landing A venue.

THE member of Select Council who recenil. laid before that body a statement relative fo the valuation of the property at Landing avenue, had, we are assured, no intention to impeach the integrity nor interfere unnacessarily with the private interests of any of the owners. He honestly believed that the award made by the jury appointed to assess the damages sustained by the owners of the ground by reason of its being selected and appropriated by the City Government for pablic use, is, in the aggregate, excessive; and so believing, it was clearly his duty to take such steps as might be required to protect the people of Philadelphia against paying for the land in question more than it was really worth. His action in the premises does not of itself set aside the award, but only subjects it to a review, of which the legitimate effect will be to confirm the award if right, or to disaffirm it if wrong. None can possibly be injured by this proceeding, provided it be conducted, as we have no doubt it will be, with no other purpose than to ascertain the truth and to do justice to all concerned.

The inquiry, of course, 15, whether the jury in fixing the price to be paid for u by the city, and for which the citizens are to be taxed to raise the amount, did or d'd not overestimate the value of the property? We have previously remarked that the assessment of real estate for taxation is, generally speaking, below, and in some 'instances very much below, its real value; and that, accordingly, it should not be relied upon as a criterion of valuation when any particular piece of real estate is taken for public use. Nevertheless, when, as in the present case, a small strip of land that has paid taxes on a basis of fifty thousand dollars is suddenly app alsed at four hundred and eighty-six thousand one hundred and n'noty-nine dollars, alter the city has proposed to appropriate it for municipal purposes, the discrepancy in the two valuations is surely great enough to demand judicial inquisition.

There are some facts touching this matter that have come to our knowledge, and which we deem it but right and proper to communicate to the public. In valuing private property taken for public use, the juries to assess the damage, to be paid by the city should be selected with special care. They should consist of men whose honesty is not only incorruptible, but who are eminently qualified by experience and into ligence to discharge the duty for which they are chosen. Now it happens that the jury appointed to value the property at Landing avenue was composed of one druggist, one carpenter, three clerks, and one gardener. It would seem that such persons, judging from their vocations merely, were certainly not the most competent judges taat might have been employed to appraise real estate. It is true that they held fifty-five meetings, attended by counsel for the owners of the property and the city; that they visited the ground in the presence of the owners and their counsel; that witnesses on behalf of each owner and the city were examined before them; and that finally, after the case was argued on both sides by the legal gentlemen engaged, the award was made. Yet all this investigation and discussion would not be sufficient to insure an entirely just decision, if the jury were not intelligent enough to judge of the facts for themselves, independently of any information or advice derived from those interested either to overrate or underrate the property. That the jury in question were so qualified is more than doubtful, and it is therefore right and important to revise their conclusions. Mcreover, we are informed that the ground which the city was required to take, at a cost of nearly halt a million of dollars, is not, in fact, worth much, if any more than the sum at which it was assessed for taxes. It is not of great extent; it is not susceptible, by reason of its peculiar position and surroundings, of any improvement likely to enhance its value to its owners, now or hereafter, to any considerable degree-a State law, indeed, restricts its improvement or employment in any manner likely to contaminate the water supplied to the city from Fairmount; and it has been satisfactorily ascertained that the rental of the property did not very much exceed the legal interest that would be paid on a capital of fifty thousand dollars, which is the sum at which it was assessed for taxation. It is also said, by those who have taken the trouble to inform themselves upon the subject. that the amount, or very little more than the amount which the city is required to pay for this contracted, unimproved, and practically unimprovable strip of river bank lying between Fairmount Park and the Fair. mount Water Works, with the Reading Railroad immediately in the rear, would purchase the ent re cast sid : of the Schu; Ikill river, extending an equal or greater distance back from the river line, from Fairmount Park up to Laurel Hill!! If this be so, then the people will naturally ask why they shall be taxed to pay 1 alf a million of dollars for a proparty that will be comparatively valueless to them,

they can secure a stretch of country of not only far greater area, but which would, if added to Fairmount Park, form one of the most magnificent and beautiful public pleasure grounds to be found anywhere in the world.

It is not our province, nor are we disposed, to particularly criticize the award of the jury in this case. The court having jurisduction of the matter, and the City Solicitor, will, no doubt, perform that duty very effectually. But we may say, since the facts are within our knowledge, that while the awards made by the jury are nearly correct and tair in some instances, they are enormously untair in others. There is official warrant for saying that one award for \$70,625 should not exceed \$29,000; that another for \$38,377.08 should not exceed \$14,000; and that a third for \$92,000 should not exceed \$50,000! The report of the jury is open to many similar exceptions of less magnitude!

It is not our business to explain why certain pieces of property are estimated far above their real value, and others not. The jury chosen to assess them all must answer that question, and they will probably be compelled to give an account of their stewardship. In the meanwhile we have thought it our duty to call public attention to the subject; to ascertain and publish such facts regarding it as the press may properly disclose; and to let it be understood, generally, that in a case of so much consequence to the tax-payers of Philadelphia we shall not if we can help it, allow injustice to be done them without timely exposure and protest.

A Uniform Militia System.

THE experience of the late civil war has taught our people and statesmen many important lessons, and not the least important of them is, the imperfectness of our present militia system, and the necessity for a better one. This matter has hitherto been left with the several States, and the consequence has been, as might naturally have been expected, a general neglect of the subject. In some of the States the laws respecting military service were much more stringent than in others, though in none was any complete method of organization and practice devised or enforced. The fine for non compliance with all statute provisions touching the matter was so trifling, that most persons preferred to incur and pay it rather, than attend a militia muster; and the result was, that what but few citizens thought worth attention fell into universal disregard and contempt.

This was altogether wrong, especially in a republic whose policy has ever been opposed to the maintenance of a large standing army. It has been our boast that the United States can safely rely for defense on its militia, against either domestic insurrection or foreign invasion; and we have, thus far, managed pretty well to pass successfully through the few contests that have tried that theory since the Revolution to the present time. But it must be confessed that our different wars would probably have been less expensive and of shorter duration, if we had been better prosubject, as he observes with great pleasure [same popular occentricities that characterized that " Congress is proposing to establish a uniform system throughout the United States." He is wise in preferring one general, uniform, national militia system to many various, conflicting, and severally inefficient systems. And it is to be hoped that Congress will carefully consider this subject, and meet its requirements with all that perfectness of detail and harmony of general plan which the exigency so urgently demands.

President JACKSON, who was a man of large military talent and experience, said, in his first inaugural address, "that the balwark of our defense is the national militia, which, in the present state of our intelligence and population, must render us invincible. As long as our Government is administered for the good of the people, and is regulated by their will; as long as it secures to us the rights of person and property; and so long as it is worth defending: a patriotic millia will cover it with an impenetrable ogis. Partial injuries and occasional mortifications we may be subjected to; but a million of armed treamen. possessed of the means of war, can never be conquered by a foreign foe. In any just system, therefore, calculated to strengthen this national safeguard of the country, I shall cheerfully lend all the aid in my power." These were the sentiments of a soldier and statesman who fully understood the great value of an efficient national militia system; and the present Congress should not adjourn without supplying that part of our political economy which the opinions of enlightened jublicists and the lessons of experience concur in persuading us to regard as of vital importance.

The Conduct and Tone of the Repeatant South.

"By all the glory and all the sorrow of our past; by the almost infinite resources which cham our administration; by everything of a moral, political, and intellectual nature which we hope for in the future, let us throw aside indefence and prejudice and dependence upon the magnanimity of the North, and go to work with the settled purpose of attaining a position in the Union enabling us to depend the rights which, as all experience has shown, we caugo secure from that spirit of nationality which the North has always boasted with her 10° and always trampled order her feet. Let the close of the war be but the beginning of our efforts in be half of Southern independence."-Galooston News. CONSERVATIVE journals, not only in our city, but in almost all of the leading towns of the country, have seen fit to comment, in no chosen terms, upon what they are pleased to style our radicalism. A Baltimore paper, a few days since, saw fit to announce, "that in virulence and hatred of the South, the Philadelphia EVENING TELEGRAPH had few superiors in Northern journalism." We hall such testimony as a complinent to our devotion to our national unity and unswerving adherence to those doctrines which must save and perpetuate the Union. Those of our contemporaries, who continually prate about the renewed loyalty of the South, of the repentance and devotion to the nation in the late Rebel States, do so in direct opposition to the facts displayed day by day, by those of whose regeneration they are assuring us. The article from the Galveston News, from which we make an extract, is but the utterance of a sen-

the constabulary force in 1787 can be remarked among the pollcemen of 1866. It is not our desire to mention localities, but at the corner of two of our leading thoroughfares can be seen the guardians of the public peace surrounded continually by a band of blacklegs, gamblers, swindlers, and thieves, who, although exquisitely dressed, are as objectionable to "respectable housekeepers" as were the "ragamuffins" that accompanied the constables more than a century ago. From such associations good poople are airaid to trust the officer who has such men for his companions, and the rumor is current that an appeal to any of these policemen against the crimes of their boon barfellows is worse than useless. No less than three instances have recently come under our notice, in which a brawl took place at an early hour of the evening, at the corner of a street where a special policeman is detailed to constantly stand, and innocent ignorant parties have been robbed within sight of the principal hotels of our city. It is with no desire to interfere with the duties of our municipal authorities that we complain and protest, but as public servants we are compelled by duty to do what we can to protect the peaceable and punish the guilty. Upon the next occasion of a disturbance similar to these of which we have recently heard, we shall publish in full the names, the locality, gambling house, and drinking cellar, and let all our readers know not only of the extent of the evil, but of all those who are guilty of con-

THE CHANGES THAT A DAY MAY BRING FORTH.-SIDNEY SMITH, in 1818, presented to English readers, through the Edinburgh Review, a table showing the increase of population in Philadelphia. He said :-

nivance at, or a participation in, the crimes.

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If we continue the table, we find that the population in '1866 would be nearly one million. The size of New York, at that time, was the same as the Quaker City, and the total shipping of the metropolis was 300,000 tons a year. Then Philadelphia was the representative city of America.

Would it not be an instructive lesson for our City Fathers to examine into the causes wh ch have led to the decline if not the fall of ovr municipality? What domestic geni has favored New York and slighted us? Would it not be better for as to cease following a phantom of past renown, and secure the bedily agency which accompanies energy and well-directed enterprise? It is a melancholy fact that we have been so long accustomed to sitting at our hearthstone; and gloating over the shadow of past renewn. that we have gradually become accustomed to living on the possession of FRANK IN'S memory and the State House; that we have almost sunk into the position of imbecile dotards, who live only in their youthful days and totally ignore the present. Let us allow the conqueror of electricity to take care of his own fame with posterity, and so act ours lves that our children will not have to pass over this generation in order to find some emblem on which to exercise local pride. By energy and liberalicy we can secure for our city the lost power she once possessed. But while we are waiting other towns are acting, and unless we come speedily to a conclusion, we will find, when our resolution is taken, that the field is no longer open, and that our rivals have secured the position and merited the wealth which nature has designed to be justly ours.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NOTICE-HANDEL AND HAYDN R SOCILTY. - The Second Concert of the Season will take pince on FRIDAY EVENING, February 9, at MUSICAL FUND HALL, Sabscribers will take notice that, in consequence of the PUBLIC REHEARSAL taking place on THURS-DAY AFTERNOON, the CONCERT will be on FRIDAY NIGHT ; therefore, all Subscribers' liekets dated February S are to be used on Friday night. All subscribes who wish to avoid the crowded bouse on Friday night can use their tickets at the Rehearsal. the public will be admitted to the General Reheareal on Thursday atternoon, February 8. Doors open at 1 o'clock-to com nence at 2 o'clock precisely. All members of the Society will be punctually on the platform before 2 o'clock. Doors will be open on Frida / evening at 6} c'clock, and Concert to commence at 71 As the Concert will be over before 104 o'clook, it is requested that the audience will remain seated uctil the close Librettos of the Otaferio, containing the Life of Mendelssohu and explanatory remarks, will be on sale at the Music Stores and at the Hall Competent ushers will be in attendance to scat the andience.

W. A. TRUMPLER'S, Seventh and Ch saut streets; LEE & WALKER'S, Chesnut, above Seventh street; and at W. H. BONER'S, Chesant street, above

Eleventh. By order of the Music Committee, 2 5 Strp

By order of the Music Committee, 25 Sirp OFFICE OF THE FAIRMOUNT PARK AND DELAWARE RIVER PASSENGES EAR.WAY COMPANY. TO THE STOCKHOLD AS -->otice is Lereby given that is meeting of the St exholes of this Company will be held at the Office, N. E. conner o. THIRD and OCK Streets second story, on THUR SD AT, February 15, 1666, he ween the bours of Ho clock M. and 2 o'clock P. M. 10 take the consideration the aureement mate this day between the Direc ors and Maasaers of the Gamentown Passinger Ballway Commany " and the Directors and Managers of the 'Fair-iount Fark and Delaware River Passenger Rillway company into and which the Germantown Passenger En way Company and to vo e for the adoption or re-jection of the same. By order of the Roard. Theware River Passenger Robins of Passenger En way Company and to vo e for the Adoption or re-jection of the same. By order of the Roard. Thewards

OFFICE PENNSYLVANIA RAIL-ROAD COMPANY PEHADELPHIA JANUARY 30, 1863 NOTICE TO STUCKHOLDERS. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Com-pany will be held on TUESDAY, the 20th day of Febra-ary, 1866 at 10 o'clock A M. at the SANSOM STREET HALL The Annual Electron of the Sansom STREET HALL The Annual Election for Directors will be held on MONDAY, the 5th day of Mirch. 1866, at the Office of the Company, No. 238 5. THIRD Steel. EDMUND SMITH.

1 30 254

OFFICE OF THE VOLCANIC OIL and COAL COMPANY, No. 11 Merchants' Ex Chapte. PHILADELIPHIA, Javanry 25 1885. The Annual Meet ng of the Stockholders will be hold on 7 LESDAY, the Jath February next, at 4 P. M. 1 26 r 2 13 A. L. MASSEY. Secretary.

JUST PUBLISHED-B) the Physicians of the NEW YORK MUSEUM, the Sincheth Edition of their FOUR LECTURES,

entitieaentified-PHILOSOPHY OF MABRIAGE. To be had iree, or four stating, by addressing secretary New York Museum of Anatomy, TIT's No. State BBCADWAY, New York.

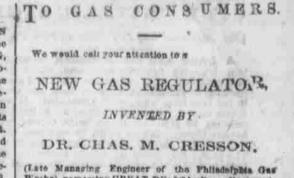
DINING-ROOM. -F. LAKEMEYER. CARTFE'S AFey, would respectively inform the Public generally that he has joint of the and the the this place comfortable in every respect for the account modelers Lintz-Boom in the second starge and com-modelers Lintz-Boom in the second starge

THE GREAT NEW ENGLAND RE-

DR. J. W. POLAND'S WHITE PINE COMPOUND

Is now offered to the afflicted throughout the country, after having been proved by the test of cloven years, in the New Fugland States, where its merits have become as well known as the tree from which, in part, it derives

its virtues.



Works', possessing GREAT DELTCAUX o adjustment by the use of a peculiar form of va ve and igns bolder coverning accurately a single light, with a capacity pass gas enough for the full number of ligh s, and the ability within the instrument its if, to increase the piesaure, when the greater quantity of gas is required.

Among the peculiar advantages of this Regulator, that make it preferable to instruments of more contracted size, which require the use of 'I' BCURY or FLEXIBLE DIAFHRAGMS, the following deserve especial notice :---

FIR T-The free motion of the Regulating Valve brough considerable space, gives it grea or de leacy of adjustment, and a wider range of consumption in a single instrument, than is possible with other forms

SECOND-The fluid seal of GLYCI RINE used in this REGULATOR, avoids the dangers resulting in other forms, from the unwholesome vapors of Meroury, which passing off with the Gas, are disseminated throughout the rooms in which it is burned, subjecting the occupants TO ALL THE DELETERIOUS EFFECTS OF MERCURY upon the human system and especialy upon the LUNGS and SEIN, when it is thus diffused as vapor. The accidental overflow of Mercury from hose mercurial Scals has often injured valuab e Gas Meters, the cost of which has necessarily been charged to th consumer.

Where the use of MERCURY in regulators is avoided by the substitution of a FLEXIBLE DIAPHRAGM, the resulting difficulties are also numerous; one is the liability to LFAK GE and EXPLOSION OF GAS: Another, the loss of Flexibility and consequent inefficiency by sge and exposare to cold, and thirdly, the inherent vice of want of a elicacy of adjustment, and range of action.

To remedy these faults, the "CRESSON REGIT. 1. TOR" was invented, and wherever introduced it has given the greatest satisfaction, always producing a steady light and regular consumption, with a saving of from TWENTY to THARTY Per Cent. in amount of gas consumed.

LETTERS PATI NT bave been granted for this Reanlator, both in the UNITED STATES and in ENGLAND, It is manufactured by the

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Of NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, and BOSION, for us alone, and for sale, Wholesale and Retail, at our ware oures in this city, where all orders and letters should be acdressed.

The following is an extract from the Journa' of the FRANKLIN IN. TITUTE, dated October 18, 1565 :- "An experimental trial was then made as to the quantity of gas consumed by the burners when under regulation to their maximum economy, and a so the amount consumed by the same burners when subjected to the ordinary variations of streat pressure.

"The result showed that with the Regulator, there was uniforn ly 78 cubic feet or gas per hour consamed, being an average of \$7-10 cubic feet per burner Whilst without the Regulator the same burners consumed from 166 to 146 cubic feet per hour, the average being 126 cubic feet, or 6 feet per hour to each burner " The test apparatus which was set up in the FRANK-

LIN INSTITUTE can be seen at our

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AND

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pared for them in respect of a competent body of well-drilled soldiers, ready to take the field at the first call to duty, and to perfirm that duty with the efficiency of regulars. There can be no doubt that, with our superior resources both of men munitions, we can hold out longest and in any conflict which the world may wage against us, and that, in the end, we shall triumph by sheer dint of endurance. But this is not sufficient. There should be economy in war as in everything else. It is the obvious interest of every nation to save money and life, and it is unquestionably true that the best security against a war, foreign or domestic, is to be fully prepared for it at all times. They meet this requisition of sound defensive policy in Europe by enormous bodies of regular troops, kept perpetually in garrison, in camp, and on foreign service, at an oppressive cost to the people who are required to maintain such establishments; and besides the onerous tax imposed on the community for that purpose, and the loss suffered by the withdrawal from useful industrial pursuits of hundreds of thousands of able-bodied men, it not unfrequently happens that the Governments which keep up such huge military organizations are obliged to invent wars for their employment in order to prevent insurrection at home. We are wiser than the European monarchies in avoiding a military system which is a constant and severe drain on the treasury of a nation, and which, at the

spirit. Yet it cannot be denied that we are not caretal enough to make our militia equal in practical efficiency to the emergencies that may at any moment demand their service. This fact was strikingly exemplified in the beginning of the recent Rebellion. When voluntcers were suddenly called for by the loval State Governments and the Federal Government, there were but few men who were fully prepared to take the field. The majority of those brave and patriotic citizens who enlisted in defense of the Union were totally uneducated in the manual of the soldier, and weeks and even months were lost in training raw recruits for the exercise and duties of actual martial conflict. It was too late to remedy the defect then, though none failed to realize and deplore it. Let us, therefore, reap benefit in the future from the disadvantages suffered in the past.

same time, tends to cultivate a belligerent

Our own State militia law is so radically and entirely defective as to be practically worthless. The Inspector-General, Mr. TODD, has recently exposed numerous and serious imperfections, and advised some adequate reform. But Governor CURTIN, in his message to the present Legislature, says he is not prewhen, for the same, or nearly the same money | pared to make any recommendation on the

timent which exists in all portions of the South-the open declaration of an opinion which is supported by each and every community from the Potomac to the Rio Grande. Beaten at the bayonet, they seek to win by deceptive policy what they failed to achieve on the field of battle. "With the end of the war their struggle for Southern independence has but just commenced."

By such a course as that displayed in the Southern States was CHARLES V induced to overium the Netherlands; by such a spirit of intollerant insolence, of audacity even in defeat, was Rome provoked almost to the extermination of the Visigoths; yet what could not be tamely brooked by one man, the Southern Rebels expect will be meekly racrived by a great people-a people from whose midst a million fellow-citizens have been dragged and sacrificed on the worse than Druid altar of Southern ambition.

The appearance of such an article as the one from which we quote, and its republication in other journals in the Cotton States, displays an arrogant, rebellious spirit, which to pass by unrebuked would be both degrading and dangerous. We therefore are rejoiced that a sub-committee on reconstruction is about to visit the South, and see for Itself the condition of Southern sentiment. We will have in its report an official and circumstantial account of the continuance of that evilt spirit which the defeated cannot exorcise. It is only through the fire that his presence can be removed, and through the fire the South must go. The extract given is but a sample of the general tone of the Southern press, and in itself answers all the arguments against us on the score of personal animosity or intemperate hatred.

IN 1737 FRANKLIN wrote: "I now began to turn my attention to public affairs, beginning, however, with small matters The city watch was one of the first things that I conceived to want regulation. It was managed by the constables of the respective wards in turn. The constable summoned a number of housekeepers to attenu him for the night. Those who chose never to come paid him six shillings a year to be excused, which was supposed to go to hiring substitutes, but was in reality much more than necessary for that purpose, and made the constableship a place of profit. And the constable, for a little drink, often got such ragamuffins about him as a watch, that respectable housekeepers did not choose to mix with. Walking the rounds. too, was often neglected, and most of the night spent in tippling."

We do not know whether the position of constable has a degenerating effect, or whither degenerate citizens have always been selected for the office; but true it is, that the

-The cattle disease has broken out at Lefttinghe, near Ostend, among a flock of one hun-dred and twelve sheep. This is the first case of the kind in Belgium. The oxen on the farm were attacked by the disease three weeks pro-viously, and the entire herd, consisting of thirtytwo, were slaughtered; but it appears to have teen too late, as the disease has attacked the sheep on the farm. Eight of the latter were shaughtered, and all communication was cut of with the remainder, but it is feared the entire flock must be sacrificed.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

CARD.-VERY LARGE AND IMPORT-ANT SALE OF HARDWARS, TABLE AND POCKET CUTLERY, Ship and Trace Chains, Horse shors, Nall Rods, axes, shoves and Sindes, Nalls, Ele. BY ORFE OF UNDERWRITERS. C. C. MACKEY, auctioneer, will shortly selt by acc-tion, the whole of the extensive stock (insured for \$10.06, i remaining from the late fire at Meesrs Bidates' store, No. 131 Market s ress. The day of sale will be duity amounced in a future acvertisement and R.J particulars turnushed in orinted chita eques. 223:49 HAVE YOU SEEN GOULD'S NEW HAVE YOU SEEN GOULD'S NEW is the 'atject and handsomes'. Farsiture store in the city. We understand that Gould's purpose is to set at hour cost for the first year, so now is the time for these purchasing Furniture. Tary have a spiendid stock of the best make from the lowest to the highest price, and will be open to sell on MONDA'. February 5th. GOULD & CO'S Union Furniture Depote, Nos. 37 and 59 York SE' OND Birect and comer of SIN fH and MARK ET Streets, which has long been known as the charts and best place to buy furniture. (22.3) FREDERICK DOUGLASS, WILLIAM FREDERICK DOUGLASS, WILLIAM Mrs. F. K. W. HARPIN & General CARL SCHUEZ, Mrs. F. K. W. HARPIN Frof. W. H. DAY, and Hon, " HALLAM D. KELLEY, will speak at CONCERT HALL, whon Nations Toplas, February 8th, 15th, and 2d, and March 1st, 8th, and 16th. " Ickees for the Course, 2150, Single admission, 33 conts, For rale at T. B. Pagh's, Sixth and Chosund streets, and at the door. 235ts E. H. THAEP. ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. LAW ASD COLLECTION OFFICE. No. 116 F. SIXTH STREET Debis promoty collected in any City or Town of the

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and tried medicine. It is pleasant, safe, and sure, Sold by druggists and dealers in medicine generally. GEORGE W. SWETT, M. D., Proprietor, 1 22mwi3m BOSTON, Mass.

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MAGAZINES FOR FEBRUARY

All the Magazines at low prices. HARPER'S and ATLANTIC MONTHLY, 25 cent

GODEY'S, 20 cents LADY'S FRIEND 15 cents. YOUNG FOLKS, 15 cents. LONDON SOCIETY, 45 cents. Other Erglish Periodicals at net prices. "EVERY SATURDAY" (Ticknor & Field's new veskly), price 7 cents. Only sold from our counter at these prices.

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