

Evening Telegraph

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THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1866.

One Plank on which we all Can Stand. In the Platform adopted by the Union Convention of Pennsylvania we find the following declaration:—

Resolved, That Congress should not fail to make an equitable adjustment of bounties and allowances to the brave men who were engaged in the military service of the country.

While in a series of resolutions expressive of Democratic faith, is found—

We urge upon Congress the propriety of providing for the equalization of bounties to our soldiers and sailors.

Here, then, so far as declarations are concerned, is a principle upon which we can join with our opponents in desiring that justice be done to those to whom the nation is most indebted. Of the conscience and faithfulness of the two parties, higher powers than we must be the judge. We take them at their word, and believe their intentions are consistent with their professions. As each party is pledged to this act of justice, we are not surprised that the matter has come before Congress, although we were not aware, until the petition was presented, that any of our veterans desired land instead of money. It would seem, however, that either they, or some one acting for them, indicated a desire to receive some of the broad acres of public land in lieu of the hard cash which was given to their fellows. The matter was referred to the Committee on Public Lands, who reported unfavorably to the scheme. Any one who will glance at the contents of the reply submitted, will concur with us in sustaining the objections.

The report sets forth that should the plan be adopted it would swallow up a large proportion of all the land at the disposal of the Government, and at the same time have a ruinous effect both on the present settlers and the soldiers themselves; that the sudden throwing of one hundred and sixty millions of acres on the market would reduce all to a merely nominal value, and open a vast field for speculation and injury; that the tide of emigration would be stopped, and stagnation ensue. The arguments advanced are all of a powerful and practical character, and merit the attention of those who feel an interest in the subject. However, although opposed to giving one hundred and sixty acres of land to each veteran, they are strongly in favor of a payment in money sufficient to equalize the present unjust difference. It is a most melancholy truth for the American people to gaze upon, that those of their defenders who have done the most to save the nation are those who now receive the least for their devotion; that the men whom love of country animated, and not love of gold induced to enlist, are those who receive nothing, while the cowards, the mercenary, Hessian-like recruits, who were procured as substitutes, are given their hundred.

We are glad that both of the great political parties of the day have declared in favor of this doctrine, and that both stand pledged to its fulfillment. Although it may be wrong to give the land, let right be obeyed by a pecuniary recompense, regardless of the cost. "Justitia fiat, cuius causa."

International Protection to Authors.

Now that American books are being extensively reprinted in Europe, our authors and publishers begin to realize the importance, as well as justice, of an international copyright law. Congress has been repeatedly asked to enact such a law, for the benefit, more especially, of foreign writers whose works were republished in the United States without any pecuniary advantage to them; but now that we are beginning to create a native literature that is appreciated abroad, and gaining hundreds of thousands of readers in England and on the Continent, our National Legislature will be more apt than heretofore to favor a policy that will secure our own authors and publishers against any violation of copyright outside of the Union.

Nearly every nation has already enacted laws to protect the inventor or the author, if he will comply with certain preliminary conditions. Labor is the great source of wealth, and surely none work harder than those who work with their brains. In order to encourage this kind of toil, a partial protection has been tentatively made out. For a few years the inventor of a machine, or of a valuable value to his country, may own his own if he will go to the trouble of giving so full a description of it that the expiration of his patent any mechanic will be able to apply the discovery. The social condition of the civilized world has been changed, the dismal predictions of political economists resound, and the whole human race elevated by inventions which, through the favor of a legislature, are kindly allowed to benefit their originators about a third of their natural lives. The law-making power has gradually given its aid to these rights of inventors and authors, until now the physician or the lawyer can recover recompense for his services; and hence there is reason to hope that literary and scientific men will, in time, receive their due likewise. The change is preparing for the acknowledgment of the claims of writers under an international system that will protect their rights as well abroad as at home.

When the nonsense about the expediency of encouraging native genius has given way to the true doctrine that a book belongs to its author wholly and entirely, and that therefore it is dishonest to take it and reprint it, and sell it without his leave, one discreditable habit of the age will be removed. Publishers of foreign works without copyright, whether in this country or in Europe, may cry out that they and their workmen will be ruined by breaking up a practice of literary piracy, but the obvious answer is, that robbery, however lucrative, must be stopped. SYDNEY SMITH once drew a picture of the highwaymen pillaging Parliament to buy their weapons and compensate them for being thrown out of employment by the great-lamps and other improvements. The illustration will apply to those who, after making fortunes by pilfering without authority the works of foreign authors, denounce a law intended to guard private property, on the ground that it will put an end to that sort of business.

One day, however, cannot be so distant when it will be admitted that "braves are not like umbrellas," and when it will be held that the claim of first discovery gives as good a title to thoughts as it ever did to a new country. We have enough faith in our people and their representatives to believe that if they will but think over this question, and study the history of legislation about it, and perceive the injustice that has been done to the products of mental labor, they will see their interest as well as duty in sanctioning such legislation as will protect the American writer in foreign lands, while protecting foreign authors in our own. We no longer hear the question, "Who reads an American book?" British, French, and German publishers are yearly reprinting the works of our authors, and taking all the profits, only because there is no international copyright law that secures equal justice to writers on both sides of the ocean. If, then, the present Congress can find time to consider this subject before adjourning, it should take some steps, if only initiative, towards the establishment of such a law as we have named, not only because honesty requires it, but also because a measure of the kind is now necessary to protect and foster our own literature and literary men.

AN ERROR IN OUR RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

We have been handed the following communication by a member of the West Arch Street Presbyterian Church. It contains a reply to certain statements made in our issue of yesterday. The reporter who wrote the religious intelligence received the facts we published direct from a member of the Second Presbyterian Church. Having given the statements of one party, we are happy to open our columns to the other:—

To the Editor of the Evening Telegraph:— In your issue of yesterday, under the head of City Items, appeared an article that does injustice to the position of the late pastor of the West Arch Street Presbyterian Church as well as to the views and feelings of the congregation. A reader not acquainted with the circumstances of Dr. Edwards' resignation, might infer that the people of his pastoral charge were waiting impatiently for his resignation, in order to elect a union with another church organization.

The writer of the article must have been misinformed in regard to several particulars. The special meeting of the Central Presbytery of Philadelphia was not held in the West Arch Street Presbyterian Church, but in the Spring Garden Presbyterian Church. The meeting was not called to consider the resignation of Dr. Edwards, but for other purposes, should his resignation come up in connection with other business, and was acted upon.

In regard to the supposed union of the West Arch with the Second Presbyterian Church, one word will show it to be without foundation. Last summer a proposition for such a union, through the influence of prominent members of both congregations, was brought before both churches, at special meetings called for its consideration. It met with such disfavor in both congregations that it was at once abandoned. After a full discussion by the West Arch Street Church, in three or four full meetings, the consideration of the matter was indefinitely postponed by an almost unanimous vote, only three votes being counted in the negative. It met with probably as much opposition in the Second Presbyterian Church.

No church could have been more united in kind and affectionate regard for its pastor than the West Arch for Dr. Edwards. The tender of his resignation was received with deepest regret by the congregation. The immediate and only cause of Dr. Edwards' resignation was his unanimous election by the Board of Trustees of Washington and Jefferson College, in Western Pennsylvania, as President of these united institutions. These institutions, two of the oldest and most honored in the State, have been united under one government.

In Dr. Edwards' will have a President of thorough scholarship, sterling integrity, generous sympathies, great executive ability, and unquestionable loyalty. In the present state of our country this last qualification cannot be undervalued in importance. These considerations, together with the fact of Dr. Edwards' appointment to a position of high honor, more extended usefulness, and less anxiety and labor, induced the congregation to consent to the separation.

"REAPING WHAT THEY SOWED."—There is no truer proverb bred down to us from the days of the Moabite dispensation than the one asserting that, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall also he reap." Nor is the assertion of the same limited to individuals, as it will be attested by the convincing evidence of its truth when applied to a people. During our years of war our Canadian neighbors encouraged the Rebels against our Government. They afforded them a shelter; shielded them from justice; supplied them with funds; and allowed them to invade our territory, rob our banks; murder our citizens; and slay our people with impunity. The whole conduct of the provincial was of such a character, that when a Southern sympathizer was to be designated, it was acknowledged in the assassination trial that they termed him a Canadian. Their country was the nursery of treason and the hot-bed of violation of international law.

And now they are reaping what they sowed. The crosses are coming home to roost. The Government and people of Canada are in a cold chill of fear or for fear of the Fenians. They are aching in their cowardice. All the timidity of the mongrel breed of Indians and French which compose the population, is condensed in this fit of alarm. It is amusing to see their flight, although it is disgusting to the admirers of human nature. They flitly grovel in the dust and pray for the interposition of our Government. They ask that Government which they insulted and whose existence they strove to jeopardize, to protect them from the threatened invasion of the Fenians. They actually call upon the United States not to remain evil for good. It is because we have no desire to interrupt the course of justice, and are willing to repay evil for evil, that we are not exerting ourselves to repress a movement which, however obnoxious in itself, is a just retribution on the cowardice and treachery which characterized their conduct to us while we were writing in the throes of civil war.

THE NAVY YARD AT LEAGUE ISLAND.—A special despatch to the New York Tribune states that "The House Naval Committee to-day heard Assistant Secretary of the Navy Fox who earnestly advocated the immediate adoption of League Island as a naval station. He pronounced it the only available location in the country fit for the purposes and needs of the iron-clad. Mr. BRANDAGER, of Connecticut, will reply on Friday, and support his preferences for New London. The Committee are expected to conclude this long-vaunted question next week." We hope that the question will be immediately decided. While the New York papers are complaining of the peculiar danger to which the vessels at League Island are at present subjected, it seems that they have entirely forgotten that all the evils will be remedied as soon as the site is accepted.

—Out of 33,835 children born in Paris during 1864, 28,967 were legitimate and 11,868 illegitimate.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

HON. W. D. KELLEY will deliver the SIXTH LECTURE of the Course, before the Social, Civil, and Statistical Association, THURSDAY EVENING, March 15, at CONCERT HALL. SUBJECT: "The Dangers and Duty of the Hour." The Black Swan will sing before and after the Lecture. Tickets to be had of T. B. Fugh, Sixth and Chestnut, and at the door. Doors open at 7. Begins at 8. 3124*

CANNEL VEIN OIL AND MINING COMPANY, No. 625 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, March 1, 1866. A Special Meeting of the Stockholders of the CANNEL VEIN OIL AND MINING COMPANY will be held on THURSDAY, 29th inst, at 12 o'clock, at Company's Office, to act upon proposition to reduce the Capital Stock of the Company to ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS. J. W. GOBE, T. P. COVAY, Directors. 3121* 26 29*

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

RECONSTRUCTION. Rev. HARRIS WILD BEBBER will deliver his first Lecture on the above interesting subject on THURSDAY EVENING, March 22, under the auspices of the YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION. Tickets, with reserved seats, in Parquet, Parquet Circle, and Box seats, 75 cents. Orchestra Stalls and Stalls, 50 cents. Family Circle reserved, 25 cents. Amateurs, 10 cents. The sale of tickets will commence on Wednesday, 14th inst, at 7 o'clock. The north half of the house at ASHMEAD & EYAN'S, No. 24 Chestnut street, and the south half at J. S. CLAXTON'S, No. 406 Chestnut street. 218

CITY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.

To the Citizens and Taxpayers:—Applications for renewal of License to sell will be received by the City Commissioners, as follows:—First second, Third, and Fourth Wards on the 6th and 7th of March. Fifth and Sixth Wards on the 8th and 9th of March. Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Wards on the 10th and 11th of March. Eleventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth, and Fourteenth Wards on the 12th and 13th of March. Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Wards on the 14th and 15th of March. Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, and Twenty-second Wards on the 16th and 17th of March. Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-fifth Wards on the 18th and 19th of March. PHILIP HAMILTON, City Commissioners. JOHN GIVEN, 214

POST OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The Mail for HAVANA, per steamer HENDRICK THURSDAY, will be closed on SATURDAY MORNING, 17th inst, at 5 o'clock. 2143*

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By the Physicians of the NEW YORK MUSEUM. FOUR LECTURES, entitled—PHILOSOPHY OF MARRIAGE. To be had free, or four stamps, by addressing Secretary New York Museum of Anatomy, No. 48 BROADWAY, New York. 2116

DINING-ROOM.—F. LAKEMEYER.

CARTER'S Alley, would respectfully inform the Public generally that he has left nothing undone to make this place comfortable in every respect for the accommodation of guests. He has opened a large and commodious Dining-Room in the second story. His SPECTACULAR BILLIARD TABLES, WINES, WHISKY, &c., &c. SUPERIOR BRANDS. 116

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION LECTURES. March 22.—Rev. HARRIS WILD BEBBER. Subject—RECONSTRUCTION. March 29.—JOHN B. GOUGH, Esq. Subject—THE ABOLITION. March 29.—JOHN B. GOUGH, Esq. Subject—TEMPERANCE. 210 1st.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL VIEW OF MARRIAGE.—Containing nearly 300 pages, and 150 fine Plates and Illustrations, of the Anatomy of the Human Organ in a State of Health and Disease, with a Treatise on Early Marriage, its Influence on the Consequence upon the Mind and Body, with the Author's Plan of Treatment, the only rational and successful mode of cure, as shown by the dissection of a married couple, who entertain doubts of their physical condition. Sent free of postage to any address, on receipt of 25 cents, in stamps or postal currency, by addressing DR. LA OROIX, No. 51 N. ALDEN Lane, New York. The author may be consulted upon any of the diseases upon which his book treats either personally or by mail, and medicines sent to any part of the world. 116 6m

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Everybody receives more than their money's worth, and as a matter of course, everybody will be delighted with this novel sale.

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