THE DAILY EVENING TKLEGRAPH.-PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, AUGUST $28,1866$.

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##  <br>  <br>  <br> Stephen A. Douglas. Ir is wonderfit how soon in this country we forget our areat men. Five years ago no man in the nation commanded a wider we forget our great men. Five years ago no man in the nation commanded a wider Influence or stood out more prominently as a representative man than STEPRISN A Dovolas. Saddenly cut down in the mids of his career, he has already pased as com of his career, he hass already passed as com- pletely out of the public mind as thougg he he belonged to another age and gineration. Amidst the stupendors events which have changes, the vast progress in idess-both hil tive obscurity. <br> The proposed laying of the coraer-stone of a monument to be erected to Mr. Douctas memory in Chicago has been made the

 sion of a somewhat prolonged tour by thePresident, and will probably reall for the moment men's minds to the lllustrious indiv
dual in whose behalf these proceedings ar it is the fashlo
extravagant laudation of the distinguished
dead. The maxim, "De mortuis nil nisi
bonum," is almost literally
bonum," is almost literally followed out
Men who were fierceely denounced all their
lives are as indiscriminately praised praise ore dead, the denunciation and and the
promg from the same parties.
This is sigrally illustrated in the case ot Mr highly commended since death.
This style of dealing with public men is
demoralizing in many ways. It tends to break down that distinction between goo
men and bad men, between good actions an vartuctuons, wave maintained. Moreover, it
tends to remove from the minds of public men that sense of responsibility to the judgment
of the future, which in most cases is a restrain-
ing and elevating influenวe. The man who年inions of his fellows, but also to the calme and more discriminating voice of those who
shall come after him. has in that very fact an from the wrong. But how can this influence
be maintained, if after death no discrimination
as to the acts and echaracters of public men is to be made, and all are to be alike the subject
of commendation? Dovacans' $\begin{aligned} & \text { ventutul lif were so grand, so } \\ & \text { unselfish, so full of all the best elements o }\end{aligned}$ heroism and pastiotism, that it would be an
ungratefult task now to review his earlier and less worthy political career. The pen of the
impartial historian, however, will not fail to
point out his instrumentality-ay, his leaderpromise and the passage of the Kansas-
Nebraska act, as one of the chief proximate causes of that fearful agitation which ilnally
culminated in our recent terrible war. Nor
can the true lover of liberty ever torget that utter indifierence to the moral character
tavery which formed the key-note of h slavery which formed the key-note of his
actions through life. These, however, are
the more discriminating views which we more discriminating views which history
will take of the man, when the events of our times shall have fallen into their proper order
and rank. For the present, we may be allowed to dwell upon that magnificent burst of patri-
otic teeling and action with which the llus-
trious Ilinoisian illumined the close of his public career, throwing into comparative
shade and forgetfulness all that he done and Hungary and Francis Joseph.
said before.
Sidultankously with the telegram fro Prague announcing that peace is regurded as
a certainty (which has, however, slince been the capital of Hungary, brings us the informa tion that, after the concluslon of that peace,
the Emperor Fraxcis Joskph of Austria Intends to appoint a Hungarian responsible
ministry, and that the Hangarian Diet is to be formally reopened in Pesth some time
during the month of September. If this into her rull rights under a constitution of a
thousand yearg' standing. There is a pecu-
liar significance in this double announceliar significance in this double announce-
ment. To the thoughtfit it reveals at once
the secret of Austria's vulnerability, and points unmistakably 10 an casy solution of
the problem how a frrst-rate power like her
her couid collapse wittin such a shor period
time. suffered by Austria, were owing as much to
the disintogrationg eviliments at work within her own limits as to the cuperior military
ability of her enemy. the anomaly of a nation without a nationality. Her provinces differed widely in race, lan-
guage, historical tradition, and political aspirations. The Germanic, Italian, Kungarian,
and Sclavonic teodencles were represented by these provinces respectively, and at times saveral nationalitles were struggling In one
and the same province. Since the formation of that Empire, "Divide et impera" had been







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