THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH. -- PHI ADELPHIA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1866.

THE NEW YORK PRESS.

MDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

N C S S S S S D U

COMPILID EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH,

Our Leading Universities. From the Independent.

It is generally agreed among our scholars and savans that the great educational need of America is a real university. The chances are that this institution, whenever it arises, will come by a process of development, rather than by a new creation. It will probably grow out of one or more of our present colleges. We have felt some interest, therefore, in comparing the last annual catalogues of Harvard, Yale, and the University of Michigan, and have been rather surprised to find how national a character they have already assumed.

In point of numbers, Michigan leads; having 1205 students, of whom 354 are undergradu-ates. Harvard has 961, of whom 419 are under-graduates. Yale has 682, of whom 490 are undergranuates.

As to variety of States in the Union repreented. Michigan does not (to our surprise) exhibit so many as the Eastern colleges, which, in this respect, keep closely together. Yale repre sents 24 States in her undergraduate depart-ment, and 25 in all; Harvard 22 States among her undergraduates, and 25 in all. Michigan represents 17 States in her undergraduate department, and 21 in all.

Students are, however, more equally dis-tributed among these different States in Yale than in Harvard, and in Michigan than in Yale. Out of 125 freshmen at Harvard, 43 (about one-third) reside out of New England. Out of 156 freshmen at Yale, 89 reside out of New England, many, of course, coming from the neighboring city of New York. The Southern States are gradually being

represented once more in our colleges, if not in Congress; and thus far at Harvard rather than at Yale, which was formerly the favorite college of Southern students. Harvard has undegraduates from seven slave S ates, Yale from five, Michigan from three only, not counting, in either case, the District of Columbia,

Of course, the New England States are more largely represented in Harvard; the Middle States in Yale; and the Western States in Michigan.

Of foreign localities, we find in the Yale catalogue France, Chili, Syria, India, and the Sandwich Islands-most of these being probably represented by the sons of missionaries. The liebigan catalogue shows France, England, Nova Scotia, and the two Canadas. Harvard shows England, Liberia, and seven British provinces-the last contributing forty students to her medical school.

Harvard always leads Yale in the graduate department, and falls behind in respect to under-graduates. This is partly owing, no doubt, to the higher standard of requirements for admis sion at Cambridge. For instance, a young man applying for admission to Harvard must have read the whole of "Virgil," of "Cesar," and of "Cicero's Orations." At Yale the demand is limited to a part of "Virgil" and of "Cicero," "Sallust" being substituted for "Casar," for which it certainly is not more than an equivalent. In Greek and in mathematics there is o some disparity. This must often turn the scale with young men whose time and means are limited. In the Michigan University the quirements are less in amount and also definite, the system being less stringent in all

So far as the arrangements for post-graduate studies go, Harvard is behind the two others, having, ocside her professional schools, only a "scientific school," and not, like the others, a "department of literature and the arts," the present it may practically amount to much the same; but it is very important to re-cognize, at the outset, a wider definition of science than that which limits it to physics and natural history. When the "Lawrence Scien-tific School," at Harvard, was originally organized, it included provision for philological nothing of study: but there seems to kind now. At Yale, besides the "Sheffield Scientiac School," there is an organized department, which "provides advanced courses in mathematics, philology, history, and metaphysics;" though it does not appear how many students it numbers. An enlarged plan seem also to be recognized by the Michigan University. There is, on the other hand, a system of University Lectures at Cambridge, adapted to graduates generally, which seems to have more of the university *principle* about it than any-thing at Yale. It is understood that there is at Harvard an "Academical Senate," which is composed of all the officers of instruction in the institution. It has always seemed an absurdity that the main government of our colleges should rest with a so-called "Faculty," consisting largely of young tutors who are employed to teach the undergraduates. Surely, in a true university, the more advanced departments should have in all respects the leading place. It appears from this brief summary that we have already three collegiate institutions which, by their numbers and their cosmopolitan character (so far as this continent is concerned), are fairly on the way to become true universities. It appears also that in their organization and plan of study-especially of graduate study-they are adapting themselves to the demands of Whatever competition exists between the age. them is of an honorable and useful order; and as, in so large a nation, there must ultimately be more than one great educational centre, we rejoice in the prosperity of all.

properly, a bad man improperly, no matter how we legislate. The President is pretty sure to strive to please the majority, and, unless our whole theory of government be erroneous, the majority, on the whole, in the long ran, is pretty ours to be right. The degree of majority pretty majority, on the whole, in the long run, r privity sure to be right. The danger of making hin inellgible for re-election is that the opinion of the majority would then become of comparatively little consequence to him, and a bad man might use his office, during his whole term, for the sole purpose of enriching himself or aggran-dizing his favoritor.

dizing his favoritos. To be sure, a man base enough for this is not likely to reach so high a place; but it must not be forgotten that very bad men go into poll ics in our day, that some of them may reach the Descidence and that we descript Presidency, and that we do not as yet know how a bad President would behave who knew he had no chance of re-election. Many people imagine that the worst ones must always have known that there was no nope for them, bat this is a great mistake. There seems to be peculiarity about this office which presome vents all prominent politicians from ever giv-ing up the hope of getting it, and, after they have got it, from giving up the hope of keep-

ing it. In the second place, it would be rather dan gerous for the country to deprive liself of the power of using the experience of a man whom it has tried and found both skilful and faithful, and to bind itself to make a total change of administration, no matter what the nature of crisis may be in which the term ends. We have ust had in Mr. Lincoln's case a signal example of the muchier that may follow the removal of a President whom the country has thoroughly tried, to make way at a time of great difficulty for an unknown and untried and inexperienced successor. No people ever made a greater dis-play of wisdom than this people did in re-electing Lincoln, and we doubt if any insident in American history made so deep an impression on the mind of foreign observers. His death at the beginning of his second term has been of some use in showing us the danger of "swapping horses when crossing the stream," to use his own illustration. It put at the heim of affairs a man of whom the country at large knew nothing; of whose real character and abilities even his own friends knew very little; who had none of the official experience or training which had made Lincoln almost twice as valuable a man in 1864 as he was in 1860; and who brought to the conduct of the Government at the most delicate crisis in our history an entirely new order of ideas and motives. We all know the result. It may be spid, it is true, that Mr. Johnson would not have been chosen to succeed Mr. Lincoln by a regular popular election; perhaps not- But a wan as incompetent and dis-appointing might have been. Most people thought in 1859 they could predict how William H. Seward would behave were he at the head of the resultion much a series of the second the republic in such a crisis as that through which we are now passing; but they would have been mistaken. He would, if we may judge from the part he has played during the iast year, have proved simply a more learned and more polished Andrew Johnson. As long as nominating conventions are what they are-as long, in short, as the task of choosing officials has to be delegated to professional politi-cians-the public can never tell who may turn up at the head of affairs. In nine cases out of ten it will be a man little known outside his own State, and he may be a Lincoln or he may not.

The true remedy for the evils with which Congress is now seeking to deal would seem to be not to make the President ineligible for reelection, and thus deprive him of the strongest motive for behaving well, and to force the peo-ple to dispense with his services, it may be, at the very moment when his experience and character are most needed, but to reduce his patron-age to a minimum. It is with his patronage that a bad President does all his mischief; without the unlimited power of appointment and dismissal his powers of mischief would be very small, his powers for good as large as ever. A reform which would compel candidates office to submit to an examination, and which while leaving the President his power of dismissal, would compel him to do what a decent regard for public opinion compels European monarchs to do-assign cause, either in incom-petency or misconduc, for dismissing a manwould reduce the abuses of the present 'system to as low a point as human nature will permit. Leave the public service in its present condi-tion, and make the President ineligible for re-election, and you simply make it tenfold more a hothe i of intrigue and insubordination and corruption than ever. The bill reported by Mr. Edmunds seems as near an approach to perfection, perhaps, as is either practicable or desirable. Patronage-the power of constantly, and with or without cause, making and filling vacancies in the civil service-is the curse of our politics. It debauches and demoralizes everybody, from the President down to the common councilman, and converts public life into a mere game for places. If it be possible to stop it at Washington, we shall not despair of with ssing its extinction in the several States. The creation of an official class which is involved in making tenure of office dependent on good behavior is, no doubt; an evil; but it is a small evil compared with the present system, and our y has grown too busy and complicated to make it possible to administer our attains by any but trained functionaries whose bread depends on their good behavior, and on nothing else. As a supplement to this reform there should be another, contining the Vice-President to the presidency of the Senate, and depriving him of the succession in case of the President's death. The plan of the Constitution has now been thrice tried, and has twice proved a total failure The possibility of the Vice-President's succeedto the Presidency ought to be borne in ing. mind in nominating him, but it never is, and so remote is the contingency that it is not in human nature that it should be. No man should ever be allowed to all the presidential office who has not been chosen for it directly. No man should get into it by an accident, without ever having submitted his qualifications for it to a popular vote. When the President dies a new election should take place -- an inconveni-ence, no doubt, but not likely to prove a very great one, as we see. There have been only three vacancies made by death in the office in cighty years, and an additional election every

cussing and deciding the course to be pursued towards the South. On the other hand, if as opportunity for repent ug of the refusal is to be afforded the South, the fact should be declared that these of the Southern people who favor the acceptance of the amendment as the lesser of the ordin may make a last extend to him the lesser of two evils may make a last attempt to bring their legislators to reason. In either case, the intro-duction of Mr. Stevens' bill is inexpedient. It takes for granted a question that is yet unde-cided: and it closes the only door through which men like Concern Partice and the bar which men like Governor Patton could hope to

Something is due, too, to the great body of the Unicn party, who have for the time taken their stand on the Constitutional amendment. It is more than probable that they will sustain Congress in any course which, after full dehbe-ration, may be adopted as a consequence of the failure of the amendment. But they desire to take ho random step. Before committing them-selves to more vigorous and more extreme measures, they require to be convinced that those measures are essential to the satisfactory termination of the present anomalous condition of affairs. To do this, it is necessary that Cengress shall move on general and understood principles, and that the pending amendment shall be dealt with decisively, as a prelude to

the adoption of other plans. It is not a case for exceptional legislation, or for legislation in detail. Until otherwise ordered, all the Southern States have an equal chance of availing themselves of the proposel terms of restoration. And any legislation predicated upon the adoption of another plan may be expected to apply alike to each of the excluded States, General legislation is wanted, and this council be looked for until some far-reaching and ex naustive plan shall have been reported and dis-

Mr. Stevens' doctrine of State suicide is hardly likely to be the approved basis of a system of re-construction. The Republican party has already repudiated the theory that the Southern States are or have been outside of the Union; and we do not anticipate the passage of a bill founded on the opposite assumption. Nevertheless, the subject is too momentous to be approached incidentally. It embraces contingencies too im-portant to be settled by a side issue. Supposing the amendment to be eventually

abandoned, the point to be primarily acted upon is the relation which the Federal Government shall hold towards the people of the Southern States. What is known as the Territorial plan avoids the weakness of . Mr. Stevens' doctrine by addressing itself to the rebellious inhabitants of the States rather than to the States themselves. Although the States were not out of the Union. their inbabitants were; their civil Governments ceased to have a legal existence; and being destitute of any duly organized Government, it is competent to Congress to reorganize their local authority in harmony with its conception of republican government. The existing Governments constitute no insurmountable obstacle. since they are but the products of President Johnson's provisional arrangements.

validity they have Of regular constitutional not a particle. And though Congress may not reduce North Carolina or any other State to a territorial condition, it may accept the facts as they exist growing out of the Rebellion, and may regulate the conditions under which the governmental machinery of the States shall be econstituted. Here is no usurpation-no outrage upon constitutional principles-no setting of a precedent which may operate to the detriment of loyal States. There is a simple recognition of circumstances as the Rebels themselves have made them, and a lawful and proper adjustment of the conditions under which the citizens of the South shall resume former rela-

tions with the national Government. But while the principle on which this form of reconstruction rests is in harmony with the principles for which the loyal States waged the war, its application will be attended with diffi-culties which no prudent man will attempt to inderrate. We think not only that they are not insumountable, but that they are less formida-ble than the dangers inseparable from the abquestion. They call, however, for careful ex-amination at the hands of the reconstruction Committee, and for a patient discussion of all their bearings by Congress. Thus, and thus only, may we hope to reach the explicit, ra-tional, and abiding policy which should precede the enactment of any particular measure.



F. UBTH Street. PHILADELPHIA, December 13, 1855. DIVIDEND NOTICE. The Transfer Books of this Company will be closed on TUESDAY, December 18, and reopened on TUES DAY, the 15th of January pext. A Dividend of FIVE FER CENT, has been declared in the Pre erred and Common Stock, clear of National and Stafe taxes payable in each or common stock at par, at the option of the holder, on and after the flat instant to the holders thereof, as they shall stand instant. All payable at this office in Philadeiphia. The option as to taking stock for this dividend will cease at the close of business hours on Saturday, 30th March next. All orders for dividends must be winessed and All orders for dividends must be wlinessed and 12 14 25t S Three S Thr



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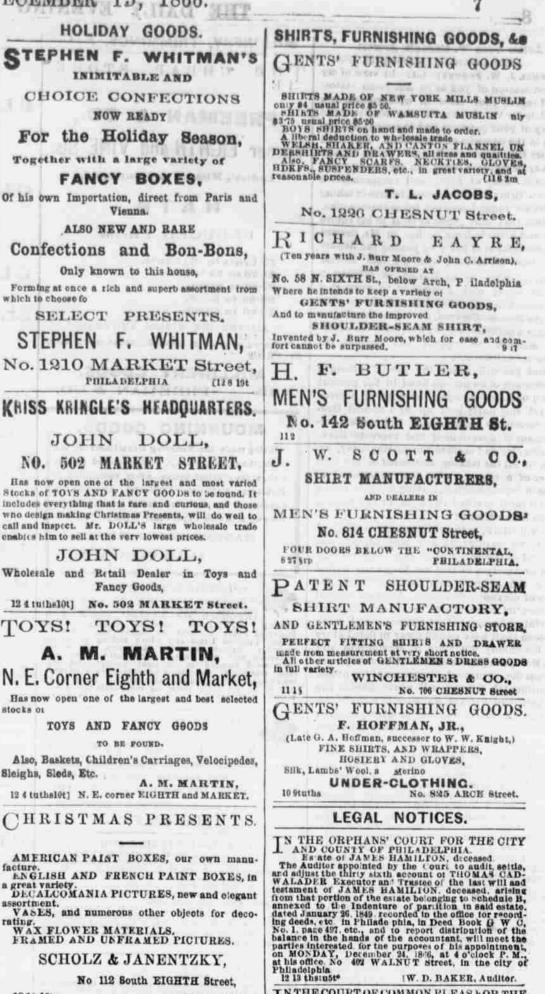
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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR THE State of R. W. SMITH. The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit, settle, and adjust the account of D C. FOLWELL, Trustee of R. W. SMITH, and to report distribution of the balance in the hands of the accountant, will meet the parties interested for the purpose of his spointment, on MONDAY, December 24, at II o'clock A. M. at the office for R. RUNILE SMITH, Esq., No. 273 South FOUR TH Street, in the city of Philadelphia. 1214 St

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR THE CITY IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA. Estate of JAMES A. STEWART, deceased. The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit, settle, and adjust the secount of ANNA STEWART, Adminis-tratrix of the Estate of JAME - A. STEWART, deceased, and to report distribution of the ba snce in the hands of the accountant, will meet the paries interested, for the purpose of his appointment, on THURSDAY, Docember 2. 1868, at 11 o'clock A. M., at his office, No 402 WAL-NUT Street. in the City of Philadelphia. Iz Iliuths5t' W. D. BAKER, Auditor.

How to Make Presidents Harmless. From the Nation.

The proposal to make the President ineligible for re-election has a good deal to recommend it, but the balance of argument is undoubtedly against it. In its favor there is the obvious consideration that it would prevent that incessant bidding for popularity, that persistent conversion of the Administration into an electioneering machine, which has been the curse of our politics for nearly half a century. The President would cease to have a motive for deserting his party, or trying to patch up one of his own, or for shaping a "policy" to catch the popular eye, or for filling the public offices with his creatures, and, in fact, for meddling unnecesarily and injuriously in the work of legislation. But the arguments urged against it by Hamilton, in the Federalist, have lost little of their force. They are now nearly as cogent as they were eighty years ago. The chance of re-election is undoubtedly a stimulus to good behavior.

The cases which tell against this argument, such as those of Tyler and Pierce and Buchanan, were undoubtedly due to an exceptional condi-tion of our politics. There is not the smallest probability that such an abuse as slavery will ever again arise, or that so formidable a combi-nation of interests follows and ever a such as the second nation of interests, feelings, and prejudices can ever take place in support of any abuse as that by which slavery was bolstered up during the last thirty years. In other words, to legislate for the contingency of such temptations as those to which Pierce and Buchanan were exposed, would be very like converting the nation into a camp in order to be prepared for war. Ordinarily a President would base his hopes of re-election upon his success in carrying out the popular wishes, and if these wishes did not, ou whole, run in the direction of good government, democratic government would failure.

The only cases in which we need ever expect a President to run counter even in appearance to the popular will, are those in which he has reason to believe that the popular judgment has not been fairly expressed, or has not had time

Johnson. The North Carolina Bill-Opening of an Important Question.

From the Times. The issue, restoration or reconstruction, is squarely raised by Mr. Stevens' bill for the establishment of civil government in North Carolina. Of the provisions of the bill it were as yet premature to speak. The principle on which it proceeds first challenges attention; for it involves the question of the relation of the Rebel states to the Union, and the process by which the latter shall be perfected.

The measure looks premature. North Carolina is one of the ten States to which the pending conditions of restoration have been submitted for ratification.

In common with the other nine States, it asked to accept the amendment, with an implied understanding that acceptance will lowed by the admission to Congress. Its Legis lature has refused the offered terms. It has declined the amendment as a basis of restoration. But the amendment, as we understand it, still remains open for acceptance. And before legislating on the hypothesis that the amend-ment has ceased to be practicable, is it not the duty of Congress to review the whole ground, to consider what policy is made expedient by the tailure of the amendment, and to determine the general principles which shall regulate the re-establishment of civil government at the South?

This comprehensive question has not been considered by Congress. The failure of the amendment is known enly informally. Whether the decisions already had in the Southern Legis-latures shall be accepted as final and conclusive, or whether the purpose of Congress in proposing the amendment shall be accepted as final and conclusive, a President to run counter even in appearance to the popular will, are those in which he has reason to believe that the popular jadgment has not been fairly expressed, or has not had time to ripen. A good man will, in such case, act

SPECIAL NOTICES. 1987 GRACE CHURCH FAIR AT INSTITUTE HALL, (WILMINGTON DELAWARE), [1287t 3 From December 10 to December 15, inclusive.

A FAIR WILL SE HELD IN THE Alexander Presbyterian Church, N. E. corner of GPEEN and NINETEENTH Streets, commencing DECE MBEB I7, and continuing until DECEMBER 28, in ald of the new Church building. The active co-ope-ration of the friends of the enterprise is solicited Con-tributions of money and materials may be sent to the house of the Pastor Rev. T. M. Cunningham, No. 613 North Eighteenth street or to Mrs. James Ross Snow-den, No. 1334 Green street. 12 10 6t

TO ARCHITECTS .-

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR NEW BUILD-INGS FOR THE WAR DEPARTMENT AT WASH-INGTON, D.C. Architects are invited to prepare plans and specifica-tions and estin ates of eost for new fire-proof buildings for the War Department, on the site now occupied by the War Department and adjacent vacant ground, in Washington, D.C. The buildings required should have a superficial area as large as the site selected will admit of. Photo-sraphs of site, and all other information relating to the subject, will be turnished to Architects desifting to com-pete for the work, upon application, personally or by letter, to the undersigned

pete for the work, upon application, personally or by lotter, to the undersigned A premium of \$3000 for the first, of \$2000 for the second, and of \$1000 for the third most acceptable plans and specifications received, will be swarded, upon the appioval of the Hon. Secretary of War, by the Board of Officers charged with the duty of select-ing a site and preparing plans and specifications for the buildings of the War Department under act of Congress approved July 28, 1865. The planes and specifications must be sent to the office of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Treadwell, Recorder of the Board. Ordnance Office, Winder's Building, Washington, D. C., on or before the 1st day of February, 1867. twenty years would be a small price to pay for assurance against such accidents as Mr.

1867. The Board will reserve the right to reject any or all plans submitted, should none be deemed suitable for the purpose, as well as to retain any or all of such plans

11 20 Im] By order of the Board. 11 20 Im] T.J. TREADWELL, Brevet Licutenant-Colonel, U. S. A., Recorder

CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELFHIA, October 16, 1866. The Vice-President of the Bank, Alexander Whiliden, Esq., having in May last, to view of a prolonged absence in Europe, resigned his position, the Board of Directors to day elected J. W. Torre, Esq., Vice-President, and H. P. schetky, Esq., Cashler, 10 17 ALEXANDER G. CATTELL, President,

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' NA-FARMERS' AND MACOUNTER TIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, December 7, 1866. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking Honse on WEDNENDAY, the bith day of January next, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 3 o'clock F. M. 12 11 26t W RUSHTON, Jr., Cashler.

NEW LONDON COPPER MINING Der. NEW LONDON COPPER MINING COMPANY - A special meeting of the stock-holders will be held on FALDAY, December 21, at the office No. 129 south FEONT at 330 F. M., to decide ubon the future course of the Company, and other matters of importance. 1211 lot SIMON POLY, Secretary,

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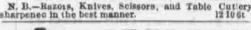
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