

THE NEW YORK PRESS. EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH.

"The World Guided by Telegraph"—East India Telegraph Company.

Could our ancestors, who rejoiced over the "great improvement" to travel from Philadelphia to "York" in a rickety mail-coach, in the admirably short space of four days, arise from their graves to-day, they could not well believe their eyes seeing a train of cars speed the distance along in four hours.

The successful laying of the Atlantic cable, and the still more marvellous success of picking up the lost end of 1858, have put our country as far out West as San Francisco into almost instantaneous communication, not only with all the principal cities and prominent parts of Europe, but also with all those of South America as far into the East as Calcutta.

No answer was ever made to this expression of a mere wish. But other competing lines more to the south will shortly be built, and will remove the danger spoken of.

The most important projected plan, and promise perhaps greater results for the welfare and material property of the United States, is the Russo-American telegraph, rapidly pushed forward on this continent by Mr. P. McCollins to across Behring Strait, and by the Emperor Alexander II, through the Queen of England (1858), the wire was expressed that the terminus of the cable, together with its connecting lines and station houses, should be declared neutral forever.

The British Government, always anxious to maintain their power in the East, and to have, we believe, entered into preliminary arrangements to extend their line of telegraph from Calcutta east to Hong Kong and thus when all these several lines shall have been completed, we can assure our readers that they will be completed in less than half the time it took the Atlantic cable to get into working order—then the United States will justly claim to the proud position of being the commercial center of the habitable globe.

When the late Thomas H. Benton was still a young lawyer and local politician at St. Louis, he edited a small sheet called the "St. Louis Inquirer." This was in 1819-20. In a series of articles in that journal, neither ocean steamers, railroads, nor telegraphs being then in use, he advocated most strenuously the speedy construction of a national wagon-road through the Rocky Mountains, and with a proper treaty with Spain, through California to some point on the Pacific suitable for a great harbor.

His sagacious and discerning arguments, His sagacious and discerning arguments, His sagacious and discerning arguments, His sagacious and discerning arguments, His sagacious and discerning arguments.

The East India Telegraph Company, a thoroughly responsible corporation, propose to do, as enough has been published regarding the Russo-American telegraph, now constructing and fast nearing its completion, and the reading public is so well informed of the general nature and character of the work, that, for the present, we need say no more about it.

the Amoor, the other to Irkutsk. The fact that along the coast the telegraph will be submerged is security against any destruction by land pirates or rebels, Canton, the starting point, has a population of 1,000,000 souls, and is the great commercial metropolis of the Chinese Empire.

Manila, the next station, is also a very important trading post. Hong Kong, the third, has a population of 200,000; Amoy, the fourth, of 250,000; and Foochow, the fifth, of 1,200,000; Ningpo, the sixth station, has 300,000; and Shanghai, the next, nearly 2,000,000.

From this last place the connection will be completed with the Russo-American Telegraph, the entire length of cables will be 835 miles, that of the land line, 665; total, 1436. From Pekin to the Collins Telegraph the distance to be spanned by the wire is 850 miles. We believe we have said enough to convince the world of the pre-eminence and importance of this work for the future commercial greatness of America.

That it will be shortly completed we do not doubt, and the responsibility is on the able men who are in the management. The Company was chartered by the Legislature of New York in 1854. The capital is \$5,000,000, in shares of \$100 each, which are rapidly taken.

The North German Confederation. Preparations for constituting the North German Confederation have been carried on with great activity since the return of Count Bismark to Berlin. On Saturday, December 15, representatives of the several Governments met in Berlin, in order to mature the propositions to be submitted on the part of the Governments to the first North German Parliament, which will assemble on the 1st of February.

The latest reports from Germany indicate that Prussia will carry through with promptness and energy the consolidation of the army of the Confederation, and of its diplomatic representation. The soldiers of the minor Governments will, in fact, at once be incorporated with the Prussian army and be placed under the command of Prussian Generals.

The elections for the Parliament have not yet been held, but it is already safe to say that the Parliament will be nearly a unit in sustaining the great transformation which has taken place in the federal relations of the German States, and in urging on the Government of Prussia to complete the work of national unity. In fact, if there should be any difference in the general policy between Count Bismark and the Parliament, it will be in the greater eagerness of the latter to include as soon as possible the German States and Provinces which are still excluded from the Confederation.

The Discontented Condition of the Outside Southern States, and the Remedy. In his memorable conversation with the British Ambassador, Sir Hamilton Seymour, the late Emperor Nicholas, looking to the reconstruction of the map of Eastern Europe, Asia Minor, and Egypt, described the empire of Turkey as "a sick man" no longer able to manage his own affairs, and calling for the timely interposition of the great powers in view of his removal and the establishment of the modern European order of things over his extensive dominions, as demanded by the march of Christianity and the necessities of the age.

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Constitutional amendment. It is now the duty of Congress to carry out this verdict of the people who were called through the war for the Union. To this end the power and the right are with Congress to compel the acceptance of these terms by the States wrenched from the Rebellion, if they do not choose to do so.

Not does the reconstruction of the outside States by Congress, even an unorganized Territory, necessarily involve any other conditions of restoration than those of the amendment. The reconstruction suggested appears, however, to be necessary in order to bring the States concerned to a loyal organization in each which will accept the amendment. In this view the nice abstractions of Senator Sumner and the special pleading of Senator Wilson may be dismissed.

To cut short the argument, we fall back upon the original doctrine of President Johnson, that there are way more than one hundred loyal men in any one of those excluded States, they are enough for its reorganization. The bill of Mr. Stevens gives a much larger margin, and is therefore sufficiently liberal for all practical purposes.

The Democracy Vindicated—Decision of the Supreme Court. The Democratic party has reason to congratulate itself on the recent judgment of the Supreme Court, declaring the military tribunals, which dominated over the public liberties during the war, unconstitutional.

When the war broke out, and the reverberations of our civil war, which reached up to all the winding streams that feed our rivers, and were re-echoed from all our hills, the vigorous alacrity with which Democratic citizens of the military age rallied to the flag and hurried to the scene of our battles, by no means lessened their military zeal ever slacken. The numerous Irish regiments we sent from this city, every man in them a Democrat, and led by such Democrats as Corcoran, and Spencer, which honors the Democratic warrior conspicuous, and which is only more noticeable from the fact that, except in the Irish regiments, Democrats were intermingled in the same military organizations with Republicans.

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