THE DAILY EVENING TKLEGRAPH.-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY Evening ©elegraph




 $\overline{\text { How "Despotism" is Working at the }}$ moorats againat the Reconstruotion law, wi
that it was a despotic measure, calculated to oppress the people. Well, that measure
now being actively carried out, and where do We find the oppression? II it in the faot tha
citizens who have heretofore been nujust1
exoluded from the ballot-box are now per mitted to exerofise the elective franohise ? Is
extension of the suffrage an act of oppression?
Is it in the punishment of criminals who have
hitherto hitherto gone unwhipped of justice? Is it in
suoch orders as those of Genera Sikkles pro
teoting the poor and famishing against the ex tortions of the covetous and unfeeling
The truth is, that for the last sixt The truth is, that for the last sixty years
fustioe has not been so faithfully administered
In the South as it is to-day under the Recon-
struction law. Never before was Southern sooiety so thoronghly under the restraints of
civiliztion and Christianity. Never before
have her whole people been in such peaceable have her whole people been in such peaceable
and concordant relations towards each other.
Never before were so many of her poor and ignorant being edacoated and elerated. For
the first time in her history the South begins
to respond to the vivifying touch of free institutions.
These are the practical workings of the
great measure of Reconstruation, as contrasted
with the predictions of demagogues and The Basiness Prospects of the Coun Takre can be no good gained by deluding
ourselves with the idea that the business of
the country is in a prosperous condition. It Would be ide to deny that the usual amount
of trade has decreased. The fact is palpabble
to every thinking man, that the trading int rests of our country are in such a condition as
to justify the greatest anxietty and the uttost
caution. We had hoped that the business depression under which we are suffering did
not extend throughout the entire land, but
from journals in all sections we see proots
that in many portions of the country the state of business is far worse than in the City of
Brotherly Love. The fact that there
has been within the past year a general has been wilhin the past year a general
decline in all olasses of mercantile interests,
as well as in the various departments of
home industry is whereby we can judge of the condition of
business interests in ial parts of the country.
Taking the first year as a standard, we are
enabled to compare the rise or fall of enterprise and business success by the returns made in
each succeeding yaar, and by comparison we
have proof of general prostration. The tone condition of affairs at the metropolis. An
othere excellent index is afforded us of the state
of trade in the West. We take, for instance of trade in the ott. We that,
the statement the organ of the Ilinis De
moorraey, the Chicago Times, In a recen

We cannot doubt the truthfulness of th
wocount. One comes to us from a free-trad 2coount. One comes
the other from a protetive paper. One is
conservative, the other a radicali: one is in conservative, the other a radical; one is for con-
traction, the other inclinea towards intation. In view of this state of the oase in the gre
workshops of our oapitalists, it is well fore
them to look well ahead into the future, an embark only in such in vestmonts as will



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