THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, JULY 16, 1867.

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MDITOFIAL OFINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS. UPON CURRENT TOPICS-COMPILED EVERY DAT FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

THE NEW YORK PRESS.

The Money Market-The Speculative Rise in Stocks. From the Times.

The payment of twenty-one millions of currency from the treasury yesterday is relied upon as a fresh assurance of speculative activity. The plethoric condition of the city banks has already driven up the prices of all securities, and with the increased ease which the Treasury disbursements will occasion will probably come more buoyancy-or ballooning-of stock. Wall street, in fact, appears to be in the midst of one of its periods of felicity, and those who are thoughtless enough to regard its prosperity as a sign of national well-doing may possibly congratulate themselves upon the advent of a new era of riches.

It is hardly necessary to put on record a warning against a delusion so palpable as that on which Wall street builds its happiness. So far from being a matter of exultation, the extraordinary ease which distinguishes the money market is one of the worst symptoms of our financial position and of the stagnation under which the industry of the country suffers. The primary cause of the abundance of currency is the inability of its owners to find profitable use for it in the legitimate channels of industry and business. Manufacturing enterprise is at a stand-still. Trade is dull. And though great expectations prevail in reference to the harvest, it must be remembered that the labor of the Southern Southern States is disorganized, and that the failure to reconstruct their levees involves great injury to some of their most important crops. These circum-stances explain the flow of capital to Wall street. But for them it would have beneficial employment in the direction of material productiveness. Its idleness is a sign of evil days, and no amount of speculation in stocks can make it otherwise.

The case is rendered worse by the connection that exists between the over-abundance of currency and the recent modification of Mr. McCullech's financial policy. The announce-ment that the progress of reducing the public debt is likely to be stayed, and that for a time at least the contraction of the currency is to be suspended, operated like a charm upon the speculative fraternity. To them it was a pledge of renewed vitality. To all besides it was equivalent to a confession that the depressed state of the country forbids the prosecution of measures that are essential to its safety. Not to reduce the debt is to proclaim a diminution of revenue, which again is a certain indication that business is unprosperous. And a pause in the contraction of the currency implies as well the diseased condition of national finance as the prolonged suffering which attends inflation. It is clear that were we marching steadily towards the resumption of specie payments, currency would not accumulate in bank vaults at the present rate. From which it follows that the renewed speculation in stocks is the result of national misfortune, not of national wealth.

On what tenable ground, then, can it be contended that the recent rise in the prices of stocks is in any manner connected with improved values? The railroads, for example, can only prosper when the country is prosperous. When trade and industry are active. railroads thrive; when both are depressed, railroads must suffer. The causes which contribute to ease in the money market are, properly speaking, reasons for a decline in stocks, so that the advances we are called to chronicle are the product of speculation merely, not of any bona fide appreciation of value.

suffered the Government to be defrauded about a hundred millions a year on whisky alone. Take the losses from other epirits, to acco, petroleum, and from all the rest of the frands on the Treasury, for which the Secretary is directly responsible, and we shall find that his management costs the nation about two hundred millions a year. We confine ourselves here simply to losses in the revenue; but if we look at the evils of his administration in sustaining the infamous national bank swindle, by which the people are defrauded of over twenty millions a year, and the industry of the country swallowed up by a monstrous moneyed monopoly, with all the other evils arising from his utter incompetency, he will appear to be the most costly administrator of the Treasury that this or any other country ever had.

But his weak apologists attempt to lay the blame on the President, on the Treasury agents, and on the rascals who practise the frands. The President will be to blame if he does not remove the Secretary, now that the facts are known to him—that is, if he has the power. At all events it is his duty to lay the matter before Congress, and to do what he can to stop such wholesale robbery of the Government. The Secretary, and not the President, administers the affairs of the Treasury. We hold him responsible for the conduct of his agents or subordinates; for he selects them in the first place, can remove for cause, and it is his duty to keep a vigilant eye over all. He is inexcusable. Then, as to smugglers, per-jurers, and robbers of the revenue in every way, there are laws to punish them, and if he did his duty in bringing them to punishment he would soon stop the frands. It is all bosh talking about the high tax on articles being the cause of evading the Revenue laws. In other countries taxes on some of such luxuries are higher than with us, and yet they are collected. Why not here ?

It seems to us that Mr. McCulloch is more intent on managing the patronage of the Government in this vast Internal Revenue department, as well as the national bank system, as a political machine, than he is for the interests of the Treasury or the good of the country. He acted with Chief Justice Chase in the organization of both, and while his political and financial chief has been on the bench he has worked the machine upon the same principle and for the same object. From beginning to end these men have shown a surprising combination of stupidity about financial matters, with a great deal of political cunning. We have now, however, reached a point in the ruinous mismanagement of our national finances beyond which endurance cannot go. Congress, as we said, ought not to adjourn without seeing that Secretary McCulloch be removed, and that a thorough investigation be made into the frauds upon the revenue and the management of the Treasury Department. The country will now hold that body responsible, and a fearful responsibility will rest upon it if it neglects its duty in such an important matter.

Cruelties to Prisoners. From the Tribune.

Mr. Fernando Wood is reported by tele-

graph as having stated in the House, on Saturday, that

"The New York Tribune had distinctly charged that cruelties had been perpetrated on Rebel prisoners,"

-Mr. Wood can find no warrant in our columns for this assertion, which he has caused to be flashed all over the country, so that it will be read and believed by thousands who will never see this contradiction. We have so often requested that those who see fit to cite the Tribune as their authority for any statement should quote our precise words, instead of putting forth as ours what they may find it convenient to attribute to us, that it seems useless to renew the demand. Fair

minds do not need it; the other sort wilfully refuse to heed it. We do not know that Rebel soldiers were

men were in so reduced a condition that, on more than one trip up on the short passage of ten miles from the transports to the oity, as many as five died. The clothing of the privates was id a wretched state of fatters and fith. The moriality on the passage from Mary-land was very great, as well as that on the pas-sage from the prisons to the port from which they started. I cannot state the exact number, but I think I beard that 500 were started, and the committee of the Federal Congress, and do not hesitate to declare that several of our mon-were worse cases of emaciation and sideness that of Andrew Johnston, also a merchant by the domond, and a member of the 'Ambulance' or Mich in a papears that the sick and younded

Thus it appears that the sick and wounded "Thus it appears that the sick and wounded Federal prisoners at Annapolis, whose condi-tion has been made a subject of outery and of widespread complaint by the Northern Con-gress, were not in a worse state than were the Confederate prisoners returned from Northern hospitals and prisons, of which the humanity and superior management are made subjects of special boasting by the United States Sanitary Commission."

After some commendation of the treatment of sick Union prisoners in their hospitals, the Confederate Committee proceeds:-

"This humane and considerate usage was no adopted in the United States hospital on John-son's Island, where Confederate sick and wounded officers were treated. Colonel J. H. Holman thus testifies:-The Federal authori-ties did not furnish to the sick prisoners the nutriment and other articles which were pre-scribed by their own surgeons. All they would do was to permit the prisoners to buy the nu-triment or stimulants needed; and, if they had no money, they could not get them. I know this, for I was in the hospital sick myself, and I had to buy myself such articles as eres mills this, for I was in the hospital sick myself, and I had to buy, myself, such articles as eggs, milk, flour, chickens, and butter, after their doctors had prescribed them. And I know this was generally the case, for we had to get up a fund among ourselves for this purpose, to ald those who were not well supplied with money.' This statement is confirmed by the testimony of Acting Assistant Surgeon John J. Miller, who was at Johnson's Island for more than eight months. When it is remembered that such arti-cles as eggs, milk, and butter were very serve cles as eggs, milk, and butter were very scarce and high-priced in Richmond, and pientiful and cheap at the North, the contrast thus pre-Sented may well put to shame the 'Sanitary Commission,' and dissipate the self-compla-cency with which they have boasted of the superior humanity in the Northern prisons and boasticle." ospitals,'

After some further defensive testimony and logic, the Committee proceeds:-

"Your Committee gladly acknowledge that in many cases our prisoners experienced kind and considerate treatment; but we are equally assured that in nearly all the prison stations of pairs for the prison stations of the prison stat considerate treatment, but we are equally assured that in nearly all the prison stations of the North-at Point Lookout, Fort McHenry, Fort Delaware, Johnsoc's Island. Elmira, Camp Chase, Camp Douglas, Alton, Camp Mor-ton, the Ohio Penitentiary, and the prisons of St. Louis, Missouri-our men have suffered from insufficient food, and have been subjected to ignominious, cruel, and barbarous prac-tices, of which there is no parallel in any-these, of which there is no parallel in any-these offen scenour men pleking up the scraps and refuse thrown out from the kitchens, with which to appease their hunger. Dr. Herrington proves that at Fort Delaware unwholesome bread and water produced diar-rhoes in numberiess cases among our prisoners, and that their configures mere on the subjects. rhoea in numberiess cases among our prisoners. and that 'their sufferings were greatly aggra-vated by the regulation of the camp, which for-bade more than twenty men at a time at night to go to the sinks. Thave seen as many as five hundred men in a row waiting their turn. The consequence was that they were obliged to use the places where they were. This produced great want of cleanliness, and aggravated the disease.' Our men were compalied to labor in unicading Federal wards and in miting in disease.' Our men were compelled to labor in unlcading Federal vessels and in putting up buildings for Federal officers, and, if they re-

fused, were driven to the work with clubs "The treatment of Brigadier-General J. H. Morgan and his officers was brutal and igno-minious in the extreme. It will be found stated in the depositions of Captain M. D. Logan, Liculenant W. P. Crow, Liculenant James R. McCreary, and Captain B. A Tracey, that they were put in the Onio Penitentiary and com-nelled to submit to the treatment of fotom pelled to submit to the treatment of fetons. Their beards were shaved, and their hair was cut close to the head. They were confined in convicts' cells, and forbidden to speak to each convicts' cells, and forbidden to speak to each other. For attempting to escape, and for other offenses of a very light character, they were subjected to the horrible punishment of the dungeon. In mid-winter, with the atmosphere many degrees below zero, without blanket or overcoat, they were confined in a cell, without fire or light, with a factid and poisonous air to breathe, and here they were they more breathe, and here they were kept until life was nearly extinct. Their condition on coming out was so deplorable as to draw tears from their comrades. under these circumstances, would be to degrade us as a power and a people. To emigrate "The blood was oozing from their hands and in a hostile manner into the territory of a "The blood was oozing from their hands and faces. The treatment in the St. Louis prisons was equally barbarous. Captain William H. Sebring testifies:—Two of us, A. C. Grimes and myself, were carried out into the open air in the prison yard, on the 25th of December, 1863, and hand-cuffed to a post. Here we were kept all night in sleet, snow, and cold. We were re-lieved in the day time, but again brought to the post and handcuffed to it in the evening— and thus we were kept all night until the se-cond of January, 1864. I was badly frost-bitten and my health was much impaired. This crust population which has shown itself to be so barbarous and unmanageable, would be, for and my health was much impaired. This cruel infliction was done by order of Captain Byrnes, Commander of Prisons in St. Louis. He was barbarous and insuiting to the last degree." "But even a greater inhumanity than any we "But even a greater inhumanity than any we have mentioned was perpetrated upon our pri-soners at Camp Douglas and Camp Chase. It is proved by the testimony of Thomas P. Hollo-way, John P. Fennell, H. H. Barlow, H. C. Bar-ton, C. D. Bracken, and J. S. Barlow, that our prisoners in large numbers were put into 'con-demned camps,' where small-pox was prevali-ing, and speedly contracted this loathsome disease, and that as many as forty new cases often appeared daily among them. Even the Federal officers who guarded them to the camp protested against this unnatural atrocity-yet it was done. The men who contracted the dis-It was done. The men who contracted the dis-ease were removed to a hospital a mile off, but the plague was already introduced, and conthe plague was already introduced, and con-tinued to prevail. For a period of more than twelve months the disease was constantly in the camp, yet our prisoners during all this time were continually brought to it, and subjected to certain infection. Neither do we find evi-dences of amendment on the part of our enemies, netwithstanding the boasts of the Sentiace notwithstanding the boasts of the Sanitary Commission ! At Nashville, prisoners recently captured from General Hood's army, even when captured from General Hood's army, even when sick and wounded, have been cruely deprived of all nourishment suited to their conflition; and other prisoners from the same army have been carried into the infected Camps Douglas and Chase. Many of the soldiers of General Hood's army were frostbitten by being kept day and night in an exposed condition before they were put into Camp Douglas. Their sufferings are irntbfully depicted in the evidence. At Alton and Camp Morton, the same inhuman practice of putting our prisoners into camps infected by small-pox prevailed. It was equivalent to mur-dering many of them by the forture of a con-tagious disease. The insufficient rations at Camp Morton forced our men to appease their bunger by pounding up and boiling bones, picking up scraps of meat and cobase from the hospital slop-tubs, and even eating rats and dogs. The depositions of William Ayres and J. Chambers Brent prove these privations. "The punishments often influeigd on our men for slight offenses have been shameful and bar-barous. They have been shameful and bar-"The punishments often inflicted on our men-for slight offenses have been shameful and bar-barous. They have been compelled to ride a plack only four inches wide, called 'Morgan's horse;' to sit down with their naked bodies in the snow for ten or fliteen minutes, and have been subjected to the ignominy of stripes from the belts of their guards." the belts of their guards." -These inculpations, we have seen, were publicly made, more than two years ago, in the report of a joint committee; they are professedly based on sworn testimony, in good part quoted therein ; and they have thus far received no specific contradiction. We trust that they can be refuted or very materially softened by counter-testimony, and we are anxious that such testimony shall be taken before those able to give it shall be mainly dead or scattered to the four winds of heaven We ask Congress, since it has too tardily resolved to investigate the treatment of our men while prisoners, to make the inquiry gen eral and thorough-to demonstrate our readiness to face the whole truth. Yet the House refuses to do this, and on motion of Gen. Washburne, of Wisconsin, adopts the following :-"Whereas, Irresponsible statements have been made by persons in sympathy with the late Re-bellion, implying that the Government of the

United States has inhumanly treated its pri-soners during the late Rebellion; and whereas, no evidence has been preduced to show that no evidence has been produced to show that such sligghtions have any foundation is fuel and whereas, the loyal people of the United States are well satisfied that in an instance were the prisoners treated otherwise than with kind-ners and humanity; therefore "Merolued, That this House will entertain no resolution which implies other than the most kind, tender, and humane treatment of its pri-by a responsible charge that they were treated otherwise."

-General Washburne we have esteemed a wise and able man; but this performance is not among those on which that judgment is founded. There is not a sympathizer with 'The Lost Cause'' on earth who will not triumphantly read and cite it as evidence that the Republicans dare not make a full and fair investigation of the treatment of prisoners by each party in our late civil war-not even be fore a committee of their own choosing-and the impartial world will be likely to agree with them. Suppose a European historian writing the history of our great struggle, with the Confederate report aforesaid before him and only General Washburne's preamble and resolve to weigh against it-oan there be any doubt as to his conclusion?

The United States and Mexico. From the World.

It is to be hoped that no premature lightning will result from the present clash of two extremes of public sentiment in regard to Mexican affairs. The ingenious schemes of radicals in Congress to entangle this country in a league with the Juarez Government, and the efforts of parties elsewhere to organize a filibustering expedition across the Mexican border, are alike unnecessary and injudicious. The end to be attained for the benefit of the United States, and individual American interests in Mexico, will be best subserved, now, by a little dignified reserve.

In the first place, the so-called Juarez or Liberal Government of Mexico is, and has been ever since the year 1865, acting by the merely nominal consent of the people, to supply an emergency that existed during the war. It has never been ratified by a popular vote; and there are too many rival aspirants for the Presidential office in the Liberal party alonesetting aside the pretensions of the leaders of several thousands of Mexicans who are still bearing arms against the sham Liberal Government-as to render it questionable whether it will be so ratified. The house of Mexico is still divided, and sub-divided against itself. There is, in its present anarchical condition, no definite assurance that a stable government. recognized and obeyed by the people, and authorized to treat for the people as a united nation, exists in Mexico.

In the second place, the passions of the majority in the country, who have opposed the attempted empire and the Church party, are at present so aroused against all foreign intervention, or even sympathy, as to have already sanctioned the most opprobrious measures to-wards Americans, and the most contemptuous expressions towards the United States Government. At this moment of triumph the recollection of the previous course of Secretary Seward touches at once an affected Castilian pride, and provokes a savage and unreasoning animosity in the hearts of a rabble which, having safely bid defiance to the European monarchies by spilling the blood of prince, believes itself quite able to defy a republic whose boasted power and prestige the history of the last three years has naturally taught it to distrust.

To express sympathy with a Government of such uncertain and illegal tenure, or with a people whose purposes are so inconstant that no one can know whether they have escaped the rule of a foreigner to obtain consolidated liberty, or to plunge anew into useless warfare among themselves, would be a gratuitons mockery. To hasten an offer of assistance to, or a hint of alliance with. Mexico



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Frauds on the Government-Necessity of Immediate Action by Congress. From the Herald.

The amazing and lately discovered frauds on the Government, through the evasion or noncollection of the tax on whisky and other articles, cannot fail to arouse the attention of the people to the utter inefficiency of the Secretary of the Treasury. The evil has reached such a magnitude that Congress will be guilty of gross neglect of duty if it should not immediately demand the removal of Mr. McCulloch, and a thorough investigation into the ruinous mismanagement of the Treasury Department. His incapacity is costing the country something like two hundred millions a year, and is fast bringing the republic to a state of bankruptcy. Should Congress be so unmindful of this startling fact and adjourn without demanding his immediate removal, we shall probably lose another hundred millions between this time and the meeting of that body in December. We shall find ourselves having a deficiency in the revenue and unable to meet the expenditures of the Government, at the same time the people are taxed to the limit of forbearance, and at a time when there ought to be a superabundant income.

The facts are so astounding that even the friends of the Secretary cannot ignore them. One of our tramming contemporaries of this city, while attempting to expose some of the frauds in whisky, tobacco, and petroleum, en-deavors to whitewash Mr. McCulloch. In the face of these revelations it speaks of his skill and wisdom in managing the financial affairs of the nation, and tries to shift the responsibility on his subordinates and on President Johnson. But no forced apology or labored misrepresentation can deceive the people as to the really responsible party. Mr. McCulloch is to blame. To blame, we say, but that word is too mild; guilty is not too strong a word for such gross neglect of duty. Suppose a man at the head of any large business establishment should permit fraudulent agents and outside rascals to steal more than a third of his employers' income, and bring them to the brink of bankruptcy, how should we charac-terize his conduct? We should say it was little short of being criminal, if at all, though the delinquent might not be reached by the laws. What is the difference between the case of such a person and that of the man at the head of the Treasury ? None, except in the offense being magnified in proportion to the amount of the loss. The guilty manager of a business firm may lose his employers ten, fifty, or a hundred thousand dollars; Mr. McCulloch has lost the people and Govern-ment, whose servant he is, hundreds of millions.

Let us repeat the facts which we have stated before, in order that the public may not lose si, ht of them. Sixty or seventy millions of g. lons of whisky a year are manufactured in this country. This must be regarded as a low er imate when we consider that ninety millions a ear were produced before the war. The ta is two dollars a gallon. The revenue from th - article alone should be from a hundred and twenty millions to a hundred and forty millions; yet according to present returns the amount will not reach twenty or thirty millions. In plain terms, Mr. McCulloch has

ever starved or otherwise maltreated while prisoners of war. As, however, the number of such prisoners, from first to last, probably exceeded two hundred thousand, and they were from time to time under the complete control of many hundreds of our officers respectively, it would be all but a miracle if none of them were ever misused. Still, we do not know that they were, and have not asserted it.

What we do know in the premises is, that the Rebel authorities long since charged our Government or its agents with unjustifiable inhumanity to their soldiers whom we held as prisoners, and that this charge was put forth so circumstantially and responsibly that it is likely to glide into history if not met and rea futed.

In the winter of 1864-5, a Joint Committee of the two Houses was raised by the Confederate Congress sitting at Richmond, and charged with the duty of investigating the alleged cruelties in the treatment of prisoners by either party to the war. That Committee proceeded to take testimony (which we have not seen in detail) and to make a report thereon, from which (omitting the defensive portions) we quote as follows:---

"In exchange, a number of Confederate sick The worded prisoners have been at various times delivered at Richmond and at Savannah. The mortality among these on the passage, and their condition when delivered, were so deplorable as to justify the charge that they had been treated with inhuman neglect by the Northern authorities.

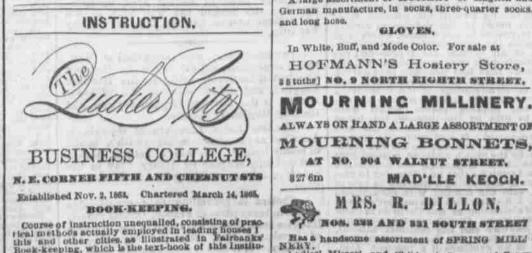
"Assistant Surgeon Tinsley testifies—'I have seen many of our prisoners returned from the North, who were nothing but skin and bones. They were as emacinted as a man could be to retain life, and the photographs (appended to Report No. 67) would not be exaggerated repre-sentations of our returned prisoners to whom I thus allude. I saw 250 of our slot brought in on litters from the steamer at Rockett's. Thir-teen dead bodies were browent off the steamer teen dead bodies were brought off the steamer the same night. At least thirty died in one night after they were received." "Surgeon Spence testifies.—'I was at Savan-

nab, and saw rather over 3000 prisoners received. The list showed that a large number had died The list showed that a large number had died on the pessage from Baltimore to Savannah. The list showed that a large number had died on the pessage from Baltimore to Savannah. The number sent from the Federal prisons was 5000, and out of that number they delivered only 5/25, to the best of my recollection. (ap-tain Hatch can give you the exact number. Thus, about 472 died on the passage. I was told that 67 dead bodies had been taken from one train of cars between Elmira and Baltimore. After being received at Savannah they had the best attention possible, yet many died in a few days. 'In carrying out the exchange of dis-abled, side, and counded men, we delivered at Savannah and Charleston about 11,000 Federal prisoners; and their physical condition com-pared most invorably with those we received in exchange, although, of course, the worst cases smong the Confederates had been removed by death during the passage.' death during the passage."

death during the passage." "Richard H. Dibrell, a merchant of Richmond, and a member of the 'Anabulance Committee,' whose labors in mitigating the sufferings of the younded have been acknowledged both by Con-federate and Northern men, thus testifies con-cerning our sick and wounded soldiers at Savamah, returned from Northern prisons and hospitals:-'T have never seen a set of men in worse condition. They were so enfeetbled and emaciated that we lifted them like little children. Many of them ware like living skeletons. Indeed, there was one poor boy, about 17 years old, who presented the most distressing and deplotable appearance I ever saw. He was nothing but skin and bone, and, besides this, he was literally cate up with vermin. He died in the hospital in a few days after being removed thither not-withstanding the kindest irestment and 'the use of the most judicious nourishment, 'Our

those who should attempt it, to court incessant turmoil, defeat, disgrace, or a death as ignoble as that dealt to Lopez, Clsy, and Maximilian. The ultimate fact is that we can well afford. for the present, to let Mexico entirely alone. Charity and humanitarianism begin at home. The United States Government will be more imposing as a missionary abroad when it has shown itself capable of ministering to and healing existing evils within its own boundaries. The Mexicans disdain our influence; let us see how long they can do without it. They

talk independently at this crisis, but they are bankrupt and needy. Where are they to get aid? Not from Europe, certainly, after what has occurred, and surely not from any South American State. They are threatened, too, with further complications with European powers. Difficulties are certain to thicken around them, and the blind, insulting course which they have always pursued in their diplomacy will probably hasten another crisis. We have thus a prospect of being sued for the very sympathy and assistance that, if offered now, might be thrust back in our teeth with scorn. We shall then have an opportunity to intervene in Mexican affairs to some purpose. We shall then be in a position to demand rights for the United States Government, and security for American citizens and their interests in Mexico, in exchange for loans and an alliance that the Mexican people will at last be forced to accept. We shall then have taken, in a manner befitting our dignity as a nation, the first inevitable step towards the establishment of a protectorate, which, by enabling us to infuse a leaven of American industry and enterprise into a country whose soil hungers and thirsts for both, will finally give us the control of that country unquestioned and entire.



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