Evening Telegraph

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1867.

The Worship of God in a Dramatic

WE notice that a movement has been started for the purpose of attempting a series of meetings for worship, in one of the theatres of our city. The first of the series came off last night, and was attended by a large audience of ourious spectators. As it is not unlikely that this system will be a feature in the religious world during the winter, we feel it our duty to frankly, and with all charity, state our views on the innovation. In doing so, we are compelled to stand in opposition to any arrangement as that contemplated, and we regret this the more because of the piety and evident sincerity o these who have undertaken the plan. We well understand the motives of the originators, and we honor them for their objects, but at the same time we differ with them most radically in regard to the result to be achieved. They argue to themselves that all lawful means should be taken to bring the irreligious within the sound of the gospel; that there are many who will not frequent a church, but who will go to the theatre, and that by selecting the theatre, the Word of God can be preached to many who would not otherwise attend. This, we think, is the substance of the excuse given by church members who favor the new idea. But the question arises, Is not more harm than good done by this attempt to amalgamate the world and the Church? Is it safe to mix opposing elements? or, rather, can oil and water be mixed at all? We think not Instead of the gospel being preached to a new class, who are struck with its truth and turned into the fold of the Church, we fear that the barriers which separate the professing Christian and the irreligious are weakened, and that instead of fresh converts coming in, there is much more danger, in this throwing down of the dividing line, of the old converts going out. The church members who find their minister on a theatrical stage, their elders in proscenium boxes, and their choir sitting inside the groves where "Romeo" sighed and "Katherine" stormed, are much more likely to have their ideas of the separation between them and the world overturned, than are the worldlings who are present of having their ideas of religion associated with the scenes at the theatre. We appeal to common sense, is it not much more probable that the sight of the minister in the place of the actor, surrounded with all the paraphernalia of the drama, should carry the thoughts to the theatre, rather than he would elevate their thoughts from it up to his sacred office? Can the crowd who frequent the place during the port the President's policy, and secondly to week, and see it entirely dedicated to playing, attend to the interests of the Government. disassociate their previous ideas, and, forgetting the plays seen the night before, listen with reverence to the word of God? The truth is, that in the mind of all such is a curious mixture of what is and what has been. Shakespeare and St. Matthew run in paragraphs, Boucicault and Jeremiah respond to each other, and the sing. ing of the hymn cannot but recall the last time they heard music in that place, and that was to the tune of "Then you'll remember me." Is such an association of ideas calculated to degrade the religion of the Almighty, or is it likely to elevate the soul of the listener and improve his moral perceptions? We leave it to any one, even the advocates of the policy of such meetings. Yet such an association of ideas is unavoidable to those who frequent the place during the week, and it is for them that these meetings are held. So far as the regular churchgoers are concerned, they have no right to be away from their own place of worship, and gaping at the forbidden beauties of a building which they dare not visit on secular days. We therefore cannot but believe that the sanctity of the Church is endangered by its mingling of the carnal and the spiritual, and that the well-meaning minister who tries to bring his listeners within the influence of the Church, is really presenting religion to them in a light so wanting in that sanctity which is its greatest charm, that the audience are much more likely to look down upon rather than hasten to enter the member-

That such a meeting was out of place was recognized by the divine who held forth last evening, and who attempted to reconcile the glaring incongruity of his office and the surroundings by "dedicating the temple to the worship of Almighty God." But of what avail is such a dedication, when for six evenings out of seven the "temple" is given up to the Muses and the Drama? This is no dedication. It is an idle and ridiculous form, and one which is more calculated to throw contempt on the Church than if nothing had been said. We may have peculiar notions on the subject of religion, but we have always believed that whatever savored of claptrap (we can use no more expressive word) lies in opposition to the true principles of the faith. We like not these sensations, whether they consist in preaching in theatres, or in burning candles and wearing white surplices. The quiet, dignified, orthodox way of going to heaven is a way broad enough for all who desire to travel in it, without opening fairy paths or illuminated boulevards to entice those who prefer the byways to come into the strait path. The attractions of the ordinary church are sufficient for all who really desire. There is no real occasion

ship of the Christian Church.

for sensational religion. All such attempts degrade the solemnity of the faith, and are calculated rather to disgust the sensible than to attract the foolish. If the sinner will not hear the gospel when it is preached in a regularly dedicated church, if he needs some other excitement than that of earnest devotion, if he wants some other attraction than that of the gospel, and needs some spice of worldliness as a condiment to season religion, then he had better let Christianity alone, and not add hypocrisy to sin. "If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be converted though one rose from the dead."

The Demoralization of the Revenue

Service. THERE is no branch of the public service which should be more exclusively conducted with reference to the public good than that of the evenue. There is no one in which it is more important that a high morale should be maintained among its officers. There is no one in the management of which partisan considerations should have less influence. There is no one which is so easily demoralized, and in which, when its high tone is once lost, such fearful corruption soon runs riot.

These are general considerations applicable to our Government at all times, but more especially to the present, when the people are sustaining a heavy burden of taxation, when a vast debt is to be managed, when the finances are in an unsettled and almost chaotic condition, and when throughout the country there are not wanting dangerous demagogues, who would lead the people into the paths of dishonor and national disgrace. At such a time the management of the Revenue Department should be above suspicion, should command public confidence by its evident devotion solely to the interests of the Government, and by its vigilance and impartiality in the administration of the law.

Is such the present condition of the Revenue Department? Does it command public confidence? Is it devoted solely and primarily to the interests of the revenue service? To ask these questions is to answer them. In not one of these particulars are the ends of good government and a sound administration met. On the contrary, we witness universal suspicion, a general lack of confidence, the most open and alarming exhibition of fraud and corruption, the most enormous losses of the just revenues of the Government, and, in short, the most complete and appalling demoralization of the revenue service ever known in this country.

If we ask the cause of all this, we have the answer in the pregnant fact that the Revenue Department is not managed primarily and solely with reference to the interests of the revenue, but is made to do service first as a political machine, and afterwards as the conservator of the interests of the Government. We believe Secretary McCulloch, on the whole, so far as his ability goes, to be a fair-minded and honorable man, who, if he were let alone to conduct the department over which he presides simply as an officer, would do well and be successful. But such is not his position. A double duty is exacted from him-first, to sup-The result is that the Revenue Department is at this moment being managed with reference to partisan considerations, and to effect partisan ends, rather than in the interest of an honest and successful collection of the reve-

Revenue officers are appointed and removed, not with reference to their ability, their integrity, their fitness for the duties they are expected to perform, but for the influence they are expected to wield in the approaching elections. Honest, vigilant, and successful officers have no guarantee, in the faithful discharge of their duties, that they will not be sacrificed upon the altar of political necessities. Such officers, in their warfare upon the cormorants who are plundering the revenue, are not sustained by the Government. It is a startling fact, but one capable of demonstration, that at the present moment appointments in the revenue service in this city are being dictated by the whisky thieves and fraudulent distillers who are daily robbing the Government of tens of thousands of dollars! They swarm around the Treasury Department like buzzards around a carcass, and reel into the presence of the chief officers of the Government to make their unblushing demands. The result is what might be expected. The whole revenue service is becoming hopelessly, mortally demoralized. The whisky frauds are more gigantic and open than ever before. Contraband spirits flood the market, and are daily sold at prices per gallon far below the Government tax. The fatal corruptions of this branch of the service react upon other branches. The people are being familiarized with fraud, and the work of public demorali-

zation and degradation goes on apace. This is not a pleasant state of things to contemplate, and we know of no remedy for it except such a rebuke on the part of the people as shall recall the Administration to some sense of its duties to the public. As at present conducted the Revenue Department is becoming a disgrace to the nation.

Are the Soldiers "Played Out?"

The popular political correspondent ("Brickyard") of the Sunday Dispatch, in his last letter. makes the following sensible remarks respecting the treatment of the soldiers by the Republican

"Much has been said and some complaints made respecting the fact that the Republicans ignored the soldiers in selecting candidates for city and county offices, while the Democrats put several upon their ticket. The subscriber admits that this fact gives the Democrats some advantage locally, though there is as much inconsistency, perhaps, in their action as in that of the Republicans. But it is but just to say consistency, perhaps, in their sciion as in that of the Republicans. But it is but just to say that, while the Republicans may have erred in not putting a soldier or two on their city and county ticket, they did well in nominating four colonels for the Legislature in the city districts, viz.—Kleckner, Hong, Clark, and Davis, all of whom did good service in the war. This should be taken as an offset

to the city and county delinquency. Taking all the nominations of both parties, in the city and county, into view, we see four soldiers on the Republican ticket, and but three on the Democratic ticket; while in the State the Republicans have elected General Geary as Governor, General Hartranft as Auditor General, and General Campbell as Surveyor-General, and the Governor appointed General Jordan Secretary of State. Last year, also, they elected General Owen Recorder of Deeds and he appointed as his assistants Colonels Given and Biles. Captain Conner, a one legged soldier, they elected City Commissioner, and it may be said that Major Weaver was elected City Commissioner by Republican votes. Colonel Gideon Clark, by appointment of a Republican Governor, is Master Warden, and by such appointment we have General Sickels as our Health Officer, General Bodine as our Flour Luspector; and by the appointment of President Lincoln, we have Colonel Ellmaker as United States Marshailor this district. This, we maintain, is a pretty thereal array of scalders in offices and all of them this district. This, we maintain, is a pretty liberal array of soldiers in office, and all of them owe their elections or appointments to the Republicans. If the Republican gramblers will look over the first tey may feel less like complaining. There are a great many civilians in Pulladelphia, and it would be not alread unreasonable not to give them some of the offices. Many of the men employed in the offices of the soldlers named are soldlers, and were appointed because of their services in the war. If a full because of their services in the war. If a full list of the soldiers holding office in the city through the efforts of Republicans were pub-lished, it would put to shame those who com-plain because there are no soldiers on the Re-publican city and county ticket." The same writer has the following also on the

importance of the coming election:-"Although there is no President Congress men, or Governor to elect this fall, the result of our election will be of great importance in its influence on the elections of next year. The influence of the result in this State is atways great on the general result, and the result in the State may be determined by the vote of this city. The party that wins this year in Pennsylvania will have a great advantage in the contest next year, not only as to this State, but the entire country. The elections of next year will be of the hightest political importance. They will determine who shall be the next President and Vice-President, and which party shall control the next Country. snall be the next President and Vice-President, and which party shall control the next Congress, and the vote of Philadelphia next month may decide the Presidential conject of 1898, and do much to determine the future complexion (personal and political) of Congress. Next year we shall have to vote in this city for President and Vice-President, five members of Congress, two Senators and eighteen Representatives in the State Legislature—who will elect a United States Senator in place of Mr. Buckalew, whose term will expire March 4, 1869—a Mayor, District Attorney, City Solicitor, Prothonotary of Common Pleas, Receiver of Taxes, City Commissioner and City Controller; also, Auditor-General and Surveyor-General of the State. It is believed by many that voters will be less particular than usual this year in supporting the nominees of the parties to which they respectively belong, because the offices to be filled are not such as usually arouse party spirit; but in view of the influence this election will filled are not such as usually arouse party spirit but in view of the influence this election will have upon the general result next year, there appear to be the strongest reasons why voters should strictly adhere to party this fall."

GOVERNOR ORR has written a letter warmly commending the course of General Sickles, during his administration of affairs in South Carolina, and deprecating in the strongest terms his removal. This letter is the best reply to the aspersions of Mr. Johnson and his satellite-Binckley.

THE OFFICIAL vote in Tennesse at the recent election, is published. It gives Brownlow 74,484 and Etheridge 22,550. Majority for Brownlow, 51,934.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING. JOY COE & CO., Agents for the "TELEGRAPH" and Newspaper Press of the whole country, have RE-MOVED from FIFTH and CHESNUT Streets to No. 144 S. SIXTH Street, second door above WALNUT. OFFICES:-No. 14 S. SIXTH Street, Philadelphia TRIBUNE BUILDINGS, New York.

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LAFAYETTE COLLEGE.

The next term commences on THURSDAY, September 12. Candidates or admission may be examined the day before (September 11), or on Tuesday, July 40, the day before the annual commencement. For circulars apply to President CATTELL, or to Professor R. B. YOUNGMAN,

Clerk of the Faculty. Easton, Pa., July, 1867. 7 20 4ptf

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TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT.
PRILADELPHIA, September 16, 1567.)

NOTIGE TO BONDHOLDERS.
At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on 4th instant, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:—

Whereas, Numerous appl'catious have been made to this Company from the holders of the First and Second Mortgage Coupon Bonds to convert the same into the Registered General Mortgage Bonds, dated July 1, 1867, therefore be it

Reso ved. That the Treasurer be and he is hereny instructed to cause public notice to be given that this Company is now prepared to exchange its Registered Bonds, secured by a general mortgage upon the line from Philadelphia to Pitisburg, of the estate, real and personal, and corporate franches therein mentioned, dated July 1 1867, for the First and Second Mortgage Cutpon Bonds of said Company, on the road between Harrisburg and Pitisburg.

Any further information can be obtained on application at this office.

16 26 20 THOMAS T. FIRTH, Treasurer.

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6 16 801 THOMAS T. FIRTH, Treasurer.

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UNION LEAGUE.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

At a meeting of the Committee appointed by the Union League on the 18th, it was Resolved, That Public Meetings of the citizens of Philadelphia be called for

SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 28,

SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 5. The meetings to be held on BROAD STREET, in

front of the LEAGUE HOUSE. By order of the Committee

R. F. CORSON, Secretary,

THE FESTIVAL

IN AID OF
ST. JOHN'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Will take place
OB THURSDAY, September 26, 1867.
ON THE ASYLUM GROUNDS.
THE RIGHT REV. BISHOP WOOD

Will be present, and, on behalf of the Rev. Clergy and
Laity, formally welcomed by the
VERY REV. C. J. H. CARTER.
After which the
RIGHT REV. BISHOP

Will address the people.
Tickels issued for last Thursday will be good on this
occasion.

925.35

THE MEAGHER TESTIMONIAL.—
A Bost of the late Major-teneral THOMAS
F. MEAGHER, executed by Captain N. R. Harris, of
this city, will be pitced on exhibition shortly.
The above is a token of respect in memory of the
faithful services of a gallant soldier and true friend,
and intended as a present to his afflicted widow, Mrs.
Meagher, of New York.

9 23 24 5

THE COMMITTEE ON OUT FLOWERS of the Exhibition of the HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, to be held next TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, solicit contributions to their department, which will be thankfully acknowledged by an admission ticket.

ROBERT KILVINGTON, It Chairman of Committee,

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HIGH-

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HIGH-WAYS, Office No. 104 S. FIFTH Street.
PRILLADELPHIA, Sept. 19, 1867.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Sealed proposals will be received at the Office of the Chief Commissioner of Highways ustil 12 o'clock M., Monday 23d inst., for the construction of the following Sewers, 2 feet 6 inches, viz.—On Vernon street, from Tenth to Eleventh street; on Canton street from Peng's Run sewer to Hamilton street; on Coral street from the north curb line of Otls street to Front street; thence along Frontstreet and connect with one already built in said Front street; on Pearl street from sewer in Sixteenth street to the east curb line of Fifteenth street; on Eighth street from sewer in Parrish street; outlined about 250 feet; on Fourth street from Notris to Hackley street, and on Hackley street to the east curb line of Fifteenth street; on Eighth street; on Bodine street from Columbia avenue to Montgomery street; on Twenty-second street from Montgomery to Oxford street; on Tatlow street from Eighteenth to Nineteenth street; on Billes street from the sewer in Sixteenth street to a point about ninety feet east of Seventeenth street; on Madison street from the sewer in Vine street to the north curb line of Race street; and a three-feet sewer on the line of Montgomery street from Twenty-first to Twenty-second streets, and with such manboice as may be directed by the Chief Engineer and Surveyor. The understanding to be that the contractor shall take bills prepared against the property fronting on said sewer to the amount of one doilar and twenty-five cents for each lineal foot of front on each side of the said street as so much cash paid; the balance, as limited by ordinance, to be paid by the city, and the contractor will be required to keep the street and sewer in good order for three years after the sewer is kinshed.

When the street is occupied by a city passenger rall-road track, the sewer shall be constructed alongside of said track in such maner as not to obstruct or interfere with the safe passage or the c

OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION CO.

PHILA OR OPHILA OR OPHILA September 20, 1867.

A special meeting of the Stockholders of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., will be held at the Board of Trade Rooms. CHESNUT Street, above Fifth, on TUESDAY, the 1st day of October, 1867, at 10% o'chock A. M., for the purpose of authorizing a loan under the Act of Assembly approved the 10% day of April, 1867, 9.30 et JAMES S. COX, President. WIEGAND'S PATENT STRAM GENE-

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COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Committee appointed to superintend the Burning of Sales, on the grounds of the East Pennsylvania Agricultural and Mechanical Society, at Norristown, September 14, 1867, respectfully report that nine Safes were procured for the test, as follows: One of C. S. Maiser's, of Philadelphia, invoiced

first-class, price.... One of Little & Son's, of Philadelphia, invoiced first class, price. One Steam Fire-Proof Safe, made by the American

Steam Fire-Proof Safe Company (Sanborn's Patent), price One Steam Fire-Proof Trunk (Sanborn's Patent),

One of Marvin & Co.'s, Philadelphia, involced firstclass, price ... One of Evans & Watson's, Philadelphia, with Sanborn's Patent Improvement, price One of Farreil, Herring & Co.'s, Philadelphia, in-

voiced first-class, price ... One of E. Hassentorder's, Philadelphia, involced first-class, price. ne of Evans & Watson's, Philadelphia, old make, price.

These fafes were purchased, with the exception of Sanborn's Improvement, from the stores of the respective makers, with the guarantee that they were of the best of their respective manufactures,

In the test of burning, the fire was applied at 3% o'clock, on the morning of the 14th, and was extin-guished at 1 o'clock P. M. The wood consumed in the burning was sixteen cords, and was equally distributed among the respective safes.

The Committee inspected the condition and the contents (which were equal) of the respective safes before burning saw that all were properly closed, and a portion of the Committee was present during the burning.

After the burning, and on opening the safes, the reaults were as follows:-

C. S. Malser's, contents totally destroyed. Lillie & Son's, contents totally destroyed.

American Steam Fire-Proof Sale Company's Steam Fire-Proof Safe, contents In perfect condition. Steam Fire-Proof Trunk (Sanborn's Patent), contents discolored and damaged.

Marvin & Co.'s, contents totally destroyed. Evans & Watson's, with Sanborn's Patent Improve nent, contents in perfect condition. Farrel, Herring & Co.'s seemed to resist the fire

longer than either of the safes of the old make, but its contents were totally destroyed. E. Hassenforder's, contents totally destroyed,

Evans & Watson's, old make, contents totally destroyed.

In view of this result, and inasmuch as no premicm has been offered by the Society for this interesting and valuable display, the Committee recommend that a GOLD MaDAL be awarded to the Sanborn Improvement, as shown in the Sale manufactured by EVANS & WATSON, of Philadelphia, and in that made by the American Steam Fire-Proof Safe Comtany.

An examination of the Safes after they had entirely cooled, showed that the matter contained in the tubes of the Safes made after the Sanborn Patent had not been more than hall exhausted.

JOHN F. HARTRAFFT, ALFRED S. GILLETT, WM. H. JOHNS.
ROBERT IREDELL, J.B. DUNLAP, J.B. DUNLAP, LLOYD JONES, WM. H. KEMBLE, Committee.

The STEAM FIRE-PROOF SAFE has been burne

in test fires with Herring's, Marvin's, Lille's, Valentine & Butler's, Tilton & McFarland's, Edwards & Kershaw's, Hassenforder's, Malser's, Morse's, Jones', Miller's, The Tremont Co.'s, and Evans & Watson's Safes (without the Steam Improvement), and ALWAYS WITH COMPLETE AND TRIUM. PHANT SUCCESS, in each and every case preserving its papers WHOLLY UNINJURED, while the contents of all Es competitors were EXTIRELY

We inv. te the public to call and examine the SAFES ested with the STEAM FIRE-PROOF SAPES at Norristown, Pennsylvania, September 14, 1862, compare their condition with that of the STEAM FIRM PROOF SAFF, and examine the contents of the latter, WHOLLY PRESERVED.

EVANS & WATSON,

NO. 28 SOUTH BEVENTH STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.