THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1867.
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PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNDON,
aumdays mxamtion $\triangle \mathrm{T}$ the kyening teleoraph but
no. 108 \& fhird strint.

##  <br> WEDNESDAX, DECEMBER $18,1867$. <br> "Light : More Light !", Tras people of Philadelphia, from Richmond to tho Neokk, have tuken up the ory of Goethe the Neok, have tuken up the ory of Goothe, and are, earnestly demanding "Light, more Hght" Eo long as the gas fornished us was good, so long as the flame was bright and stoady, and we could deteot an improvement over the days of tallow dips, the great majority of the people did not care particularly whether the Trustees opewed their meetings to a com the Trusteess opewed their meetings to a com mittee of Councilis or not. They did not oare Whether the books were kept straight, or whether the contracts were sealed proposals or open bida. That was a matter which they le severely alon dull, and th the people are naturally aroased to fodigna tion. for coal was a matter of small interest, bu when tha Wren the contractor have furnished suoh eight hundred thousand citizens of the Quake City, an astonishing focrease in the interes folt in the folt in the management is peroeptible. Until now, zach a point ts reached that some ohang is demanded The is dema elllient ment.

At the last meeting of Counoils a bill wa
Introduced directing the Mayor, on the st o
Maroh, 1868 , to take possession of all the gas Works, In behall of the city; that the Trustees
be abolished, and a Chief Tnine by Counneils, who would bo directly respononsi-
ble to that body for all his deeds or misdeeds. bie to that body for all his deeds or mindeeds.
A motion to deteat the bill was lost by a vote
of thirteen to twenty-one, so that it is probaof thirteen to twenty-one, so that it is proba-
ble it will pass. Tbis plan is an improve ters are now constituted the Trustees eleot a answerable to no one for their aota, an
having no responsibilitity beyond a prospeot or not being reellected. That is the sole punisb
ment which can be visited upon them for cor ruption or inefficiency. The new plan would
do way with this. It would make the officer all pecuniarily liable for any default in the du-
ties of their oflloes, and, by making all th
aocounts open to aooounts open to pablio inspection, woul
soon enable Councils to correot any part o
the system which might need amendment. the present system, there it a still botter
mode, in our opinion, of managigig the sup.
ply of gas for the oity than the one proposed. We refer to the aystem prevalent in Earop
of selling out the contract for supplying that artiole to private corporations. That is to say
Fe favor the awardiig of contrats for various
portions of Philadelphis to regular companies, who will bid for it. Let the oity be divido
gay, into four parts. Lat her still own the gay, into four parts.
various gas works, and then avertise for pro-
posals to take oharge of and run the whol ponals to take oharge of and run the whole
system for say fire years. By this means, i
sealed proposals were rigity demanded, the
works would be talken, of course, by the part Works would be taken, of course, by the part
Who would agree to furnish the gas for the least possible price. This woold at onco secure
econoony. By making the sucessfal bidde
enter into bonds for the faithfal performance enter into bonds for the falthal porformance
of his duty, and by so arranging the bond
that, in case of the failare of the contractor to that, in case of the faillure of the contractort,
supply a good artiole at the fixed rates,
heavy forteit and an avoidance of his contra would result, we would secure a firat--las
artiole, instead of the wrotohed, flicker
ing, dim glare, which tjrtures the eyes and disgusts any one who atremptst to read. By By
this means, the works would become a hand this means, the works would beoome a
some profit to the city, and not, as no
continual expense and annuyance. It is a well-established fact that a private
individuan aon conduct anenterprise at a mach lower rate than a public corporation. The
reason for this is olear. He devotes his time seoure eoonomy; while in the case or a cor
poration, especially public government, it
but one individual's profit to sevure eoc nomy-in faot quite the reverse-so that manh
is squandered, and the work but ill done
Aoting on this arinciple, the goveruments of Aoting on this prinolple, the goveraments
the oitiea of Earope bave long gince adopted and with great sucenss, this pland. It is foun
to work admirably, with none of the diffeu
Hes or disturbances which we suffer by keep ng the contranolof of the thrust in the haf hands of the
oity itself. The only objeotion to the proposal
ill be thit it will deprive the polis. If that in an oubljection, the prative officies, an plan had better be continued. Now tha
Counoils are moving in the natter in favor some reform, we hope that this plan will $r$
ooive their attention. Experienoe has prove It far more satisfactory than with a Board Trustees or the direet management of Coun-
oila. By it economy, good gan, and honest he support of the members of both Chamber,
, hope that the plan proposed last Thursda Will pasha. A reforme is not only needed, but
it is demanded. No talk about legality or the the loans of 1841 will avail. We hope that
the question will be falriy met, and settled
is the publio g od, and not privete loterests ditates.

## The Letter of General Grant. last the long tailkedof toter of Conera

is thoroughly characteristic of the man. There has nothing appeared which will so unite the
hearts of the people in their condidenoe in the subjugator of the Rebellion, as will this leater
to the President in defense of the leaders of


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