THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1869.

THE DALLY EVENING TREAMENTS - PRILADELINE, ENDINER, ENDER ARY



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PHILADELPHIA.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1869.

The Elevated Railroad.

MR. SAMUEL JOSEPHS yesterday introduced into the Legislature an act "incorporating the Philadelphia Elevated Railroad Company, providing that Charles M. Prevost, Joseph F. Tobias, John F. Reading, W. A. F. Maddox, S. W. Gross, M. D., Charles B. Sloan, Jacob Janney, Richard Montgomery, E. Cooper Shapley, and William B. Wilson, be authorized to form a company under the provisions of the general Railroad law, with a capital of \$1,000,000, to construct a double track railroad, at an elevation of not less than fifteen feet nor less than twelve feet from the surface of the ground, along and over Market street, commencing at Front, and running to the western line of Philadelphia county, to be constructed of corrugated beam iron, supdeavoring to find the golden grain of truth at ported upon columns of the same material, the cars being propelled by a dummy engine.' The bill was referred to the Committee on Railroads, and is at present before that body. We have heard of wild propositions. Thus, a bridge across the Delaware river to a spot in New Jersey to which no one goes or wants to go, is being debated. A tunnel under Broad street-an imitation, feeble, to be sure, of the Metropolitan Underground Railroad of Londen-is also discussed. And it is not many years since an aeronaut, Low or High, or some such name, favored the chartering of balloons to carry people from one street corner to another. But of all insane and comical ideas, this elevated railroad on Market street takes the lead. Really, Mr. Josephs, if you perpetrated a joke on General Prevost and old Dr. Gross and their associates, you deserve the Cassio-like commendation, "By heavens, this is a more exquisite one than the other."

The contemplated improvement (?) on Market street is certainly unique. At a space of twelve feet above the level of the street. or about ten and a half feet above the pavement, will be erected a corrugated double track railroad, for the purpose of transporting, not people only, but freight, coal, ashes, and all other substances which are calculated to throw dust in the faces of the passers-by below. Probably at intervals there will be a passenger car, from which citizens will be let down or taken up in buckets, like they do in the Cornish mines. Occasionally coals from the dummy engine will drop on the head of an innocent passer-by, and at intervals one of the "corrugated iron beams, with columns of the same material." will give way and let the elevated railroad down on some cart or pedestrian. These are a few of the incidents of the road. But of course these are all cancelled by the fact that the injured people, provided they are seriously injured, and not merely smothered by the dust and dirt, can sue the corporation. In addition to these claims for the passage of the bill, there are others which will recommend it strongly. It is not asked for by any one, ner will it supply any need of our people. This is a convincing argument in its favor. There are no passengers who would ride on it in preference to the cars on terra firma, and there is no freight which needs transportation through the heart of the city. It is, therefore, not in compliance with any want. Again. it would be greatly injurious to the owners of all property on Market street; in fact, it would be rainous not only to basiness, but to the real estate owner. Therefore, these parties will possibly be ready to buy the scheme off. Certainly pass it then. The corporators can have their dividend and all interested could have theirs, provided the owners of property could be brought to terms. And then, too, some of the Market street men are rich, and therefore legitimate prey. Again, the Market Street Passenger Railroad would be seriously affacted by it, and they too might be induced to subscribe a proportion. Altogether the bill has so many merits that we congratulate the incorporators over their charter when they get it, and also give Mr. Josephs credit for its introduction. We trust that this bill will die in committee. There are gentlemen of sense and honor in the House. Let them see to it that no such charter as the Elevated Railroad Company's is ever granted.

the authority of the Board, and appealed to the Court for protection, declaring that his membership in the Board of Brokers affords him unusual facilities for conducting his business, and that to be suspended or in any way deprived of his privileges as a member would do him irreparable injury. The Board, on the other hand, assert that every member on being admitted to their body consents to abide by the rules and regulations, and that to release any member from his obligations under the rules would be calculated to destroy the organization of the Board and injuriously affect the interests of the public. We may remark that this little three-cornered fight is an illustration of the very decided differences of opinion held by business men the same subject. Some mainon tain that a bargain is a bargain under any and all circumstances, and this seems to be the case with the Third street representative who has appealed to the Court for protection against the Board of Brokers. The Wall street gentleman evidently is of the opinion that a quid pro quo is the one thing needful to bind a bargain, although in this case it may make a difference as to whose ox is gored. Both parties in this controversy are represented by able counsel, who made eloquent appeals that justice should be done though the heavens fall, and Judge Peirce took the matter under advisement, and is now engaged sitting up late o' nights en-

Fair Promises.

the bottom of the muddle.

THE action of Mayor Fox yesterday in remov ing Reserve Officer Hill, without the assignment of any cause, is one which the admirers of the new executive of our city will find difficult to reconcile with his professions. Upon entering on the duties of his office Mr. Fox talked in soft notes of governing the police force according to merit, and selecting only good men. He went further, and gave the people to understand that such of the old force as are of undoubted merit should not be deprived of their positions. How he is carrying out these promises is shown by the case in question. It will be remembered that Officer Hill was the only policeman who had the nerve and independence to arrest the notorious Jim Haggerty, over whose case there was so much excitement a few weeks since. Hill went into a bar-room, arrested Haggerty, was driven out, waylaid, shot, and beaten. He is still suffering from the wounds received in the discharge of his duty. It will be remembered also that he was brought before the notorious McMullin, and came near being sent to jail. All this was the immediate result of the fearless performance of what was required of him by every sense of right. And how is he rewarded? Without cause, at the request of McMullin and his fellows, Hill is discharged from the force. If any more convincing argument is wanted to show the necessity of some reform in our present police system, we have it here. The political fancy of the Mayor and the complaint of the worst class of citizens caused the removal of a faithful policeman. This case is but typical. With the adjournment of the Legislature will come a general discharge of the present force and the instalment in their places of men who carried the bludgeons of the Sheriff at the October election. Such men as these to be the guardians of the public peace ! We tremble for our city when we think of such an evil. Let the case of Hill be a warning to the Legislature that some sort of reform, be it what it may, is necessary to save life and property from being endangered in Philadelphia. Ineligibility of Members of Councils, A VERY proper law has passed the State Senate and is now before the House of Representatives. It relates to the right of persons elected to Councils to hold office under the city government during the term for which they are elected, and modifies the existing law in some important particulars. It divides the city officers inte those who are elected by the people and those elected by Councils. So far as the former are concerned, all prohibitory statutes which excluded members of Councils from accepting of them during the time for which they were elected to Councils are repealed. This seems to us to be only just. Let us cite instance. A gentleman is elected an Select Council for three years. If to he keeps his seat, or if he resigns, it matters not. For three years from the date of election he is ineligible to any elective office. The new law makes him eligible to one when the people choose, but of course compels him to resign from Councils before he can accept it. Were the law otherwise, we might be deprived of the services of our most valued citizens, and many who would be ornaments to the chamber be induced to decline entering upon the duties for fear of the consequent exclusion. By removing all such disability simple justice is done. In the other class of officers, however, those elected by Councils, every member is excluded for the entire term for which he is elected. He cannot resign and be elected to them. For three years from the date of his entrance into the Select Chamber, no member can be elected by his fellows to any office. This is eminently proper. It is necessary in such a city as our own that the Connoils be not used as a stepping-stone to political advancement. We do not want members to go into them, and do so only to get the acquaintance of their fellow-members and be elected to more lucrative offices. And it is a wise provision that for the time for which they are elected they should be excluded. There seems to be no doubt but that the bill will pass.

clined to submit to such arbitration, denied | interesting period when the standard of excelience was established by which all future dramatio art must be judged. Before the cold and oritical age arrives the very atmosphere of the theatre has a marvellous charm, and the theatre-goer enters into the spirit of the mimic scene with a heartiness and enthusiasm that cool off considerably when the judgment is more sober, the taste more cultivated, and the critical faculties more active. It is undoubtedly the fact that more real pleasure can be derived from a critical taste for art which is capable of analyzing and comparing and discovering the secrets by which effects are produced and governed; but this taste is also more intolerant of inferiority, and, with regard to the drama at least, it is apt to deplore the fact that merit of the highest order is so rare. A poet whose perceptions of beauty were keen and sensitive, has declared that "A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

and it is a remarkable as well as a gratifying fact that, so far as works of art are concerned. the best and greatest take the most permanenthold upon the imagination and memory-A person who has been in the habit of attending dramatic entertainments for a number of years has a vivid recollection of the com. paratively few fine plays, fine performances, and really great actors he may have seen in the course of his playgoing experience. The vast amount of duiness, stupidity, and medi. ocrity that he has sat out night after night for the purpose of obtaining these pleasant recollections, fade from his memory, and for the purpose of judging the dramas of to-day he has the impressions of youth and the ideas of ex. cellence gained from a really small number or performances. A very little reflection, combined with the inspection of a file of play, bills, will convince any unprejudiced person of the trath of this assertion; and in forming a critical estimate of the state of dramatic art at the present day, it is necessary to take the facts stated into consideration.

It is also necessary to bear in mind that great plays and great actors, like great plotures and great painters, only appear at rare intervals. We inherit the wealth of the ages, but the intervals between such actors as Garrick, Kemble, Kean, Booth, Forrest, and others were not short. In their day and generation these artists were as much above their fellows as they appear to be above those who tread the stage in our day. It is true that sometimes a galaxy of stars appears at one time in the theatrical firmament, but such occasions are exceedingly rare. The fact is that the theatres are more numerous and more prosperous, and the state of dramatic art is more promising, at present than it has been for a long time; and those who have witnessed the performances of such artists as Ristori, Janauschek, Forrest, Murdoch, Edwin Booth, and many others that might be named, cannot complain that they have enjoyed less advantages in the way of fine acting than their grandfa hers. The last impression of Ristori in the minds of many playgoers in this city is the heggard figure of "Marie Antoinette" staggering towards the prison door on her way to the guillotine. This is an image to be cherished in the memory for a lifetime, and the shadows cast upon it by succeeding years will only mellow the tones without obliterating anything of its grandeur or beauty. Jananschek's "Medes" or "Deborah," Forrest's "Lear" "Richelleu," Murdoch's 'Benedict" or Young Mirabel," and Edwin Booth's "Hamet," will be the standard by which many persons will measure the deficiencies of actors twenty years hence, and with as much justice as we refer to the era of Kemble and Kean as the climacteric of dramatic art.

In reality, the theatres are better constructed and the scenic and mechanical

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A discount at the rate of nine per cent, per annun will be allowed for prompt payment. JOHN M. MELLOY,

Receiver of Taxes. PHILADELPHIA, Fob. 10, 1869. 2 11 85

CELTIC ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA. LECTURE BY JOHN MCTCHALL E-Q. AT CONCERT HALL, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17, At S. P.M. For the Benefit of the Cottle Library Fund. Subject- Who are the Cetter? Tickets, 50 cents. For sale at the book stores of Messar Cumming, No. 1037 Chesnut street, Grambo, corner & B cs. No. SOS Chesnut street, Grambo, corner sixth and Gresout, and Scanlan, No. 108 South Fifth support.

Choice seats reserved for ladies and gentlemen ac-companying them without extra charge. R. SHELTON MAUKENZIE, R. SHELTON MAUKENZIE, JAMES O'DONNELL, Secretary.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOME FOR LITLE WONDERERS at the ACADEMY OF MUSIC on FRIDAY EVENING, Feb 12, 1860, Addresses by Drs. WILLETS, NEW-TON, and others. Singing by the Little Wanderers, under the direction of J E. Gould, E44. Doors open at 630 o'cluck. Exercises commence a 750, Tickets, 50 cents: to be had at the door atd at the "Home," No. 823 Shippen street. 2686 5 OFFICE OF THE DELAWARE DIVI

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THE CHICAGO JOURNAL SAYS: We have delayed any special mention of the Elastic Sporge Company unil we have ascertained that very many of our foremost citizens have used the Elastic Sponge Mattreases and Pillows upon their beds and pronounced them in every way worthy of full endorse mets.

WINTER THAWING OUT.



PHILADELPHIA, January 18, 1869. Messrs. FARREL, HERRING & CO.,

No. 629 Chesnut street. Gentlemen:-On the night of the 18th inst., as is well known to the citizens of Philadelphia, our large and extensive store and valuable stock of merchandise, No. 902 Chesnut street was burned.

The fire was one of the most extensive and destructive that has visited our city for many years, the heat being so intense that even the marble cornice was almost obliterated.

We had, as you are aware, two of your valuable and well-known CHAMPION FIRE-PROOF SAFES; and nobly have they vindicated your well-known reputation as manufacturers of FIRE-PROOF SAFES, if anyfurther proof had been required.

They were subjected to the most intense heat, and it affords us much pleasure to inform you that after recovering them from the ruins, we found upon examination that our books, papers, and other valuables were all in perfect condition. Yours, very respectfully.

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THE ONLY SAFES EXPOSED TO THE MIRE IN CALDWELL'S STORE WERE FARREL, HERRING & CO.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 18, 1589. Messrs, FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 Chesnut street.

Gentlemen:-On the night of the 13th instant our large store, S. W. corner of Ninth and Chesnut streets, was, together with our heavy stock of wall papers, entirely destroyed by fire.

We had one of your PATENT CHAMPION FIRE-PROOF SAFES, which contained our principal books and papers, and although it was exposed to the most intense heat for over 60 hours, we are happy to say it proved itself | PINK SILKS, worthy of our recommendation. Our books and papers were all preserved. We cheerfully tender our testimonial to the many already published, in giving the HERRING SAFE the credit and confidence it justly merits.

Yours, very respectfully, HOWELL & BROTHERS.

STILL ANOTHER. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 19, 1868. Messrs, FARREL, HERRING & CO.,

No. 629 Chesnut street Gentlemen:-I had one of your make of safes in the basement of J. E. Caldwell & Co.'s store at the time of the great fire on the night of the 13th instant. It was removed from the ruins to-day, and on opening it I found all my books, papers, greenbacks, watches, and watch materials, etc., all

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Diamond Cut Diamond.

A vesy pretty case was lately argued before Judge Peirce in the Court of Common Pleas, which involves some nice points of business ethics. A member of the Board of Brokers, it seems, disposed of some oil stock, in 1864. to a New York broker, at a figure which the purchaser considered to be far beyond its real value when he came to inquire into the character of his investment. Finding the oil stock rather a drug in the market he naturally desired to have his money back, and appealed to the Board of Erokers to assist him, inquiring "can such things be" in Philadelphia, or anywhere outside of Wall street ? The seller of the oil stock, considering that possession was nine points of the law, declared that business was business, and that the only point of ethics to be considered in a bargain was for each man to look out for his own pocket. Third street, however, decided that it had a character to lose, and that it would ahow Wall street a good example. So the Board of Brokers undertook to investigate the matter, but the vendor of oil stocks de-

The Palmy Days of the Drama, and Now. WHEN were the palmy days of the drama? Most persons have an indefinite idea on this point, and if obliged to give an exact answer would be apt to indicate some ten, fifteen, or twenty years ago-about the time when they first commenced visiting the theatres-as the

far superior now to what they were a few years ago. Greater attention is paid to costume and the mounting of dramas, and on the whole it is safe to say that plays, as a general rule, are as well, if not better, presented now as they ever were. Some ten or twelve years ago, when the Arch Street Theatre was under the management of William Wheatley, a very superior stock company made that establishment the favorite resort of theatre goers who appreciated good acting, and yet any person who will take the trouble to reflect will be able to remember a good many very indifferent plays, and a great deal of very indifferent acting, at the Arch in its "paimy days." No company equal to Wheatley's has been collected in this city since, the one now at the Arch being the nearest approach to it, and every candid person competent to form an opinion on the subject will admit that, in the way of scenery. costumes, and effects, plays are better produced under Mrs. Drew's administration than they ever were before. The worst that playgoers can complain of when comparing the drams of to-day with that of their earlier recollections, is in the deterioration of the company at this one theatre. The Walnut has, probably, as good a company now as it ever had-except at very rare intervals-within the memory of the present generation. The Walnut, however, was always a "star" house, and relied more upon translent attractions than upon the strength of its company. The star system, however, we are happy to think, is at its decadence. Heretofore, actors, after gaining a little local popularity, have considered themselves fitted to amuse and edily the public without the assistance of well-trained assoclates; and they have abandoned their legitimate work to travel from city to city until the whole business of starring has fallen into disrepute, and there now seems to be a strong probability that managers, who may be so disposed, will be able to fill up their companies with competent performers. The number of theatres all over the country, and the large sums received by them from the public, indicate very clearly that the taste for dramatic art is as active as ever, and those who are inclined to contrast unfavorably the drama of to-day with that of twenty-years ago, should remember that, five hundred years before Christ, Aristophanes ridiculed the tragic posts of Athens and considered Euripides fair game for his satire, and instituted unfavorable comparisons between him and his great predecessors Eschylus and Sophocles, and that ever since then the decline of the drams has been sung in every key. Notwithstanding this, the theatres increase and multiply and the drams continues to flourish like a green bay less amid the applause of new generations of admisers.

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