Grening Telegraph

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AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH BUILDING. HO. 108 S. THIRD STREET, PHILA DELPHIA

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SATURDAY, FRBRUARY 13, 1869.

State vs. City Revenues and Expen-

A apponention was passed by both branches of Councils at their last session, requesting the Legislature to transfer the revenue derived from tayorn licenses and mercantile taxes in Philadelphia to the City Treasury, instead of retaining it in the coffers of the State. This proposition deserves the earnest support of every Senator and Representative of our taxridden citizens, and it can be supported by se on their part should secure its adoption.

The amount of revenue derived by the Commonwealth from the sources designated during the year ending September 30, 1868, might easily be spared from the State Treasury. It consisted of \$162,476.06 paid for tavern licenses, and \$127,408-31 for retailers' licenses, or a total of \$289,884.37. This sum would of itself be an important annual contribution to the City Treasury, but if the power was given to Counoils to increase at their discretion the amount derived from the existing licenses, a new city revenue of from half a million to a million of dollars could be obtained without imposing a grievous new burden on a single citizen.

It is a striking characteristic of the modern development of our political system that a marked increase in necessary municipal expenditures has occurred, while the necessary expenses of the State have been constantly diminishing. Every year adds to the burdens of city government and diminishes the real burdens of State government, under the system which prevails in Pennsylvania.

Before the adoption of the new Constitution, power was in a large degree centralized at Harrisburg, in the Legislature and officers of the State Government, with a corresponding liability to large expenditures. The Governor appointed all the judges, and nearly all leading county officers. and he exercised a commanding influence in many affairs which are now under exclusive local control. On the other hand, when money was to be expended it was raised by State taxation. When canals and railroads were to be built, the people of the whole State were charged with the cost of their construction. The debate on the Free School system would not have excited such intense interest if the belief had not prevailed that the chief portion of the appropriation required to sus-State Treasury, and that corresponding State taxation would be levied.

Now all this is changed. If roads are to be built, townships, counties, cities, or private corporations must provide the means to construct them. The sum appropriated by the Legislature to all the free schools of the State is sourcely half as much as the amount expended for this purpose in Philadelphia alone. The burden of pauperism and crime falls so exclusively on local communities, that if the trifling contribution made by the State for such purposes should be suspended, no perceptible increase in local taxation would be necessary in a single city or county.

The State makes no appropriations system atically, and as a recognized duty, except such as provide for the interest and gradual reduction of the State debt, for legislative and executive expenditures, for the salaries of judges, and for the partial support of free schools, or for charitable and correctional institutions.

There is not another State in the Union which contributes less, in proportion to its means, to any important object involving the general welfare, than the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Many illustrations of this niggardly tendency might be given, but one will suffice. The other loyal States assumed a very large proportion of the war debt arising from the necessity of raising bountles and providing for the families of volunteers, while in our Commonwealth the whole of this heavy burden was thrown upon local communities.

The natural consequence of this policy, accompanied as it is by a greedy retention of many sources of revenue which should only enrich treasuries that assume corresponding obligations, is, that while counties and cities are sorely pressed by debt and taxation, the State enjoys a larger revenue than is necessary to defray its legitimate expenditures. The Legislature is thus subjected to a standing temptation to make extravagant appropriations, as acts of grace or benevolence, er under the impulse of more questionable

motives. Philadelphia, on the other hand, must spend a great deal of money, and even if the greatest economy is exercised a much larger sum will be needed to defray her municipal expenditures than is required by the Commonwealth. The citizens of Philadelphia cannot escape the pressure of their heavy war debt, or the cost of maintaining public schools, the police, the almshouse, the prison, and various other expensive departments, and they should receive all the incidental aid that the State can safely grant, to enable them to

support their heavy burdens. Repecially should the revenue from tavern and mercantile licenses be paid, under the circumstances, into the City Treasury. The burden of pauperism and crime is largely ingreased by intemperance, and as the city must of Philadelphia, there seems no necessity for

equity to every dollar paid for tavern licenses. In New York this principle is clearly recognized, and New York city and adjacent districts derive (and expend mainly for local purposes) a revenue of about one million of dollars per annum from tavern licenses alone. The same rule could properly extend to the revenue from mercantile licenses, for obvious reasons. The city has incurred large expenditures to increase her trade—te build rallways. to support ice-boats, and to promote, in many ways, the interests of her merchants. If they are to be taxed, as a class, their money should be given to the governmental organization which, in return, makes expenditures for their especial benefit.

The Need of a Legal Registry Law. Arove all other duties incumbent upon the Legislature of our State during its present session, stands the passage of a just and legal registry law. The fearful lessons of the last election tell us, in language unmistakable, that if we would preserve the purity of the ballot, protect the rights of our citizens, and prevent popular suffrage becoming a popular farce, some such law as will require the registration many cogent arguments, that a proper effort of voters must be adopted before next autumn. This fact must be well known to all the city members, and we urge on them the conveyance of a like knowledge to the representatives from other portions of the State. Let them quote the instance of the Fourth ward, in which more votes were polled than all the men, women, and children in the ward, and where over a thousand new voters appeared between October and November. Such an example as this will at once convince men the most doubting that, if it is possible to frame a law which will be legal, that possibility must be taken advantage of. We would urge this, not as a party mea-

sure, not because we are Republicans, but because we are Pennsylvanians, and cannot forget that while a party may be benefited by fraud to-day, the State loses by it always. If, therefore, such a law can be adopted, it should be done, and done with care. In April, 1868, the Legislature passed a registry law, which was declared unconstitutional in July by the Supreme Court. The act in question was unconstitutional. It was a badly drafted measure, and evidently drawn up by one who had no real knowledge of law. But in pronouncing its decision, the Court gave grounds for hope that while the bill before it could not stand legal tests, yet the idea of such a law was not repugnant to the Constitution. The learned Judge, in announcing the decision of the bench, said: "We do not mean at this moment to decide that no constitutional registration law can be enacted. For myself, I think there might be, and possibly in such a form as to protect the rights of all legal voters, and secure the people, to some extent at least, against the possibility of frands at the ballot-box." It will, therefore, be seen that if the errors of the old law can be amended, and just provision made for the protection of, not the infringement on, the rights of citizens, we can have an efficient tain it would necessarily be drawn from the and constitutional law. In drafting the new law, therefore, it is the duty of the authors, and also of those who have it in charge, to provide one which will meet the objections of the Supreme Court. We give to our readers a clear idea of what were those objections. We will classify them as nearly as possible:-

First. It was provided by the previous law that all citizens must appear before a Board of Canvassers, to be appointed by the Board of Aldermen, and get registered ten days before the election. And the canvassers must put down no name on the registry unless the person is personally known to them as a bona tide resident of the division. This, the Court held, was a qualification not required by the Constitution. Personal acquaintance with the canvasser might not be either easy or desirable, and the law would thus be made unjust, and its object be defeated.

Second. After the names were added to the register, it was made the duty of the assessors to meet on Saturday night, and, between the hours of 7 P. M. and midnight, assess a tax on all the registered citizens. The Court said that in large wards this would be an impossibility; that it was a physical objection that interposed and prevented five thousand people being assessed in five hours.

Third. When the citizen presented himself before the canvassers, he was required to make an affidavit that he had resided in the division for ten days previous. As this was done on the tenth day before the election, he would certainly have had to reside for twenty days before in the division. As the Constitution provides that ten days' residence only shall be necessary, the extra qualification is apparent, and is of course contrary to the rights of the voter, guaranteed to him by the highest authority of the State.

Fourth. By the same Constitution it is provided that every citizen who is between the age of twenty-one and twenty-two shall vote without previous payment of taxes or assessment. This was omitted in the law. and an assessment required of all, whether they be voting on age or not.

Lastly. While the former law heaped penalty on penalty on the voter for perjury or deceit, yet it made no provision whatever for malfessance on the part of the canvasserthus impliedly, if not directly, putting a premium on wrong-doing on his part, and violating every rule of just protection to the public.

We have thus briefly summed up the grounds on which the former registry law was declared illegal. Let them be beacons to guide the framers of the much-needed law at the present session. In the new law great care must be exercised. There is no time now for experiments or points of doubtful legality. We need a law which will be unquestionably legal and unassailably constitutional. So far as the rest of the State is concerned, outside

assume this burden, she is clearly entitled in a stringent law. It is only in the heart of crowded cities that opportunity offers for such stupendous frauds as those with which we have been disgraced. In the country all are known, and if there be some cheating it must be limited. But with us there is no limit except the wishes of the scoundrels who perpetrate the swindle, and it requires that the strong arm of a stringent law be laid upon them to prevent the whole system of elections being made the sport of rascals. We hope and believe that the Legislature will give this matter its early and careful attention.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

with the auspices of the Young Men, Young Men's Christian Association.

Rev. J. L. Withrow will preach a sermon especially to young men To-morrow (Sabbath) avening at the AhCH STREET PRESBY TERIAN CHURU J. in ARUH Street, above Tenth, at 7% o'clock.

Seats reserved for young men.

Medical students and strangers in the city are cordially invited to attend.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH, WASHINGTON SQUARE,—Rev.
HERRICK JOHNSON, D. D., Paster.—Preaching
To-morrow at 10% A. M. and 7% P. M..
The eighth of the series of seamons on the significant questions of Scripture To morrow Evening.
Subject, "How shall I give Thee up?" All are welcome.

TERIAN CHURCH.—Rev. A. L. BLACK-FORD of Hie de Janeiro, Brazil. will preach at 10% A. M., and Rev. Dr. WILLITS at 7% P. M. Monday, at 7% P. M., Rev. Dr. WILLITS will deliver the fit of the Church.

CLINTON STREET CHURCH,
MARCH will continue his Course of Sermons Tomorrow (Sanday) Evening at 7% o'closet. Subject.
The Power of the Cross ** All persons cordially invited.

TWENTIETH and CHERRY Streets. - During Lent the usual Sunday atternoon services will be omitted. Service (and sermon by Rev. Dr. G. F. SEY MOUR of New York) To-morrow Evening at 7% Closet. THERAN CHURCH, TWELFTH and OX-FORD Streets.—Rev. NOAH M. PRICE, Pastor. At 10%, Rev. J. H.WESTWOOd. 7%, Pastor. Bible uttimatum and the obdurate." Pews free.

REV. E. E. ADAMS, D. D., WILL preach in the morning, and Rev. R. W. HENRY, D. D., in the afternoon at 8% o'clock, in the WESTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SEVENTEENTH and FILBERT Streets.

BEVENTERNTH and SPRUCE Streets—
Rev. W. P. BREED, D. D., will preach the tenth of
the series of discourses on the Book of Esther Tomorrow at 10% A. M. Subject, "The Deliverance."
Service in the evening at 7½.

REV. CHARLES A. DICKEY, OF Atleaseny Oity, will preach in the NORTH U. P. CHAPEL. MASTER Street, above Fifteenth, To-morrow at 10% A. M., and at 7% P. M., and dispense the Communion in connection with the morning se vice,

PEV. A. REED, D. D., WILL preach in the CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, EIGHTH Street, above Arch, on Babbath Evening at 7% o'clock

REV. G. A. PELTZ WILL PREACH
To-morrow Morning and Evening at the
TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHESNUT
Street, west of Eighteenth, Services at 10% A. M.
and 7% P. M.

NORTH TENTH STREET PRES-BYTERIAN OHUNCH (below Girard ave-nue),—Rev. MATTHEW NEWKIRK, Pastor, Ser-vices at 10% and 7% o'clock. All invited. TRINITY M. E. CHURCH, EIGHTH Street. shove Race.—Rev. R. W. HUM-PBRISS. pastor. will preach at 10% and Rev. E. T. KENNEY at 7%. Strangers invited.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

[For additional Special Notices see the Inside Pages.]

THE

ARE

LECTURE BY REV. A. A. WILLITS, D. D., MONDAY, February 15, at 7M P. M., being the first of accourse of six MUSICAL AND INTERARY ENTERTAINMENTS, in the WEST ARUH STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, corner of Eighteenth street, for the benedit of the church. Tickets 50c.; for sale at Gould's, No. 923 Chemous treet; Boner s, No. 1103 Chemous treet, and at the door each evening.

213 215

THE PARSON'S WEDDING FEE.

Bome folks love jokes, And that is the kind Of a pair of folks
Just now in our mind.

A most delightfully happy pair; che was a blonde, with golden hair, And whether his hair was black or red, Brown or yellow, enough is said When we state that, with becoming pride, He brought her along, to make her his b They rang the bell of the parson's door, And waited for balf an hour or more, Till the parson came in, and enjoyed the fun of making the two folks into one. And when he'd married them, (don't you see?) They took their leave without paying their fee. They took their leave without paying their fee.
And the parson sadly began to grieve
At the profitless style of their taking leave.
But, while he's thinking, solemn as death,
Here runs a boy, all out of breath;
A boy with a bundle, stout and large.
"Parson," says he, "that's your's—no charge—
"That's the wedding fee, from those happy folks;
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7. 1 REALLY LON'T THINK 1 SHALL MARRY.
8 PRAISE OF TEARS
9. CHAMP 4G NE CHARLIE,
10. SKATING-RINK POLKA.
11 GENEVIEVE WALTZ.
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21. SHE MIGHT NOT BUIT YOUR FANCY.
22 RIDING DOWN BROAD WAY.
22 WALTZING BOWN AT LONG BRANCH.
24. STILL I LOVE THEE.
25. THE PASSING BELL.
26. TAKE BACK THE HEART.
27. SEE. THE CONQUERING HERO COMES.
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NATIONAL

STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

United States of America

ON DECEMBER 31, 1868, As submitted to the Auditor-General of Penns sylvania, for five months, ending December 31,

1868, inclusive.

61,784 78 33,928-64 30,000 00

ASSETS

pany:-17,500 00

Amount loaned. 8741,000 00 \$430 60 200 00 62,000 60

81,145,843-87 Amount of Interest received from In-

26,781-56 \$200,983.22 \$75 60

72,015-81 Amount of Taxes paid by the Com-

2,038-66 75,071-27 \$149,201-34

State of Pennsylvania, County of Philadelphia, ss.:

Be it remembered that on this third day of February, A. D. 1869, before the subscriber, a Notary Public in and for the State of Pennsylvania, duly commissioned and authorized by the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania to take the acknowledgment of deeds and other writings to be used and recorded in the said State of Pennsylvania, and to administer oaths and affirmations, personally appeared C. H. Clark, President of the National Life Insurance Company of the United States of America, and made oath that the above is a true statement of the condition of said National Life Insurance Company of the United States of America upon the 31st day of December, A. D. 1868.

And I further certify that I have made personal examination of the condition of said National Life Insurance Company on this day, and am satisfied that they have assets safely invested to the amount of \$200,000. That I have examined the securities now in the hands of the Company, as set forth in the annexed statement, and the same are of the value represented in the statement. I further certify that I am not interested in the affairs of said Company.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my State of Pennsylvania, County of Philadel-

hand and affixed my official seal, this third day of February. A. D. 1869. WILLIAM J. DELLEKER, Notary Public.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

No. 243 BROADWAY, New York.President JAMES R. DOW

JANUARY 26, 1869. The Board of Directors have this day declared A Cash Dividend of Fifty Per Cent.

On the annual premium rate of all Participating Life Policies, and FORTY PER CENT. on the annual endowment rate of all Participating Endowment Policies issued in the year 1867. E. H. JONES, Vice-President.

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J. S. GAFFNEY, GENERAL AGENT.

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