THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1869.



AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH BUILDING. NO. 108 S. THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

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MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1869.

THE DELEGATE ELECTIONS.

WE print elsewhere a list of the candidates for the various city, county, and legislative positions who are seeking nominations from the Republican party. The delegate elections are to be held to-morrow evening, and the nominating conventions are to convene on the following day, so that the period is near at hand when the horoscope of the coming campaign is to be cast, and the Republican organization is to be so strengthened as to regain its ascendancy in Philadelphia, or so weakened as to ensure another defeat.

We trust that good citizens will make earnest efforts to ensure the formation of a good ticket; but as the millennium has not yet arrived, there is reason to fear that the delegate elections and nominations will, as usual, be controlled mainly, if not exclusively, by professional politicians. If these men are wise they will not ignore the popular demand for unexceptionable nominations; they will acknowledge the necessity for atoning for the errors of the past, and they will present candidates who can poll the full party strength and something more. The intriguing managers are at best a burdensome incubus upon the public, and they richly deserve the condemnation hurled against them by Swift, that "the man who can make two ears of corn, or two blades of grass, grow on the spot where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind and render more essential service to the country, than the whole race of politicians put together." The only way in which they can possibly render useful service is by devising measures for strengthening a useful party. When they labor for this end they may claim to be a necessary evil, and thus offer a plausible excuse for the prolongation of their existence. But when they show themselves as deficient in sagacity as they are in honesty and patriotism, by breaking the back of the organization to which they profess to be devoted with a crushing load of corruption and ignorance, they yield up all their flimsy pretensions to public respect, and destroy the only decent apology for their mischievous participation in public affairs. If they use their power to make tickets only to foist bad, weak, and odious men upon the community, it will not be strange if Republican voters freely resort to the remedy of treating their nominations with disdain, and burying their objectionable candidates in graves so deep that the hand of resurrection can never reach them. From present appearances various rings have been so actively at work that they can scarcely fail in many instances to insure the success of their nefarious plans, and there is great danger that a number of the legislators who disgraced themselves at Harrisburg last winter will be renominated. The usual routine is, we fear, about to be repeated. The politicians who, if they are ever to render any real and honest service, should exert themselves in forming popular and strong tickets, will consider mainly their own sordid and selfish interests; and after they have put on the party all the extra weight necessary to serve their sinister purposes, they will cry out, "You must support the ticket; it will never do to endanger the success of a noble organization. All personal feelings and animosities must be sacrificed on the altar of the country." They forget, however, that this cry is losing its potency; that intelligent voters are determined to scan the character of the men presented for their support, and their fitness for the respective positions to which they aspire, as well as their opinions on general questions; and that Philadelphia can no longer be carried by inferior men under the pressure of a great national necessity for putting none but Republicans on guard. Republican journals and Republican voters in this city will now and hereafter say to nominating conventions as the Israelites said to their task-masters, "If we are to make bricks, you must give us straw;" if we are to elect your candidates, you must give us men worthy of the honors which they seek; if we are to ask our friends and neighbors to vote for your tickets, we must feel a reasonable degree of confidence that we will not subsequently feel disgraced and dishonored by the belief that we have helped to put knavery or incapacity in office. In a community which abounds with so many able and honest men, it is saddening to run over the lists which indicate that a large proportion of the applicants for office are rather below than above the average standard of mental and moral qualification. If the ingenuity of nominating conventions is to be exercised in picking out rather the worst than the best men of the city as the objects of their favor, the whole system should sink into such disrepute as to be "more honored in the breach than in the observance." COMPOUNDING A FELONY. THE Directors of the Beneficial Savings Fund Society, at the corner of Twelfth and Chesnut streets, were severely but justly censured for the culpable carelessness that permitted their building to be entered and their safe to be forced open and rifled of its contents in broad daylight. It was shown conclusively that proper means were not taken to guard the property placed in their charge, much of which was the hard earnings and careful savings of the poorest class of laboring people. Since the robbery occurred the whole affair has been wrapped in mystery; the detectives have been engaged in ferreting out the perpetrators-in their own peculiar fashion-but

| they have not succeeded in finding them, or even obtaining a trace of their whereabouts. The thieves carried off their plunder in the full light of day, from a building in the most populous part of the city, and situated on a thoroughfare where crowds of people are passing at all hours, day and night. The tracks were so skilfully covered up, however, that the police were completely baffled, if we are to believe all that is said on the subject; and the whole affair is a very striking commentary on our whole detective system.

Although the police were unable to unravel the mystery, the thieves appear to have been visited with some compunctions, and on Friday evening they performed what appears on the surface to be an act of unparalleled generosity, by returning through Adams Express all the bonds stolen from the saving fund, and retaining only as the reward for their skill and labor the sum of \$15,000 in cash and a diamond bracelet valued at \$10,000. If the thieves made over this property of their own free will, they certainly are entitled to considerable credit for extraordinary liberality, and we can only wish that some honest men would, on occasion, be equally disinterested. The whole transaction, however, is under a serious cloud of suspicion. The law makes the compounder of a felony a participant in the original crime; and without positive demonstration to the contrary, it will not be easy to believe that the return of these bonds is not the result of a special arrangement between the savings society, the detectives and the thieves. The directors of the savings fund were doubtless anxious to recover the missing property on almost any terms, especially as they were under peculiar responsibilities with regard to it; but nothing whatever can excuse such an open and barefaced violation of the law as this appears to be. It is certainly time that some improvement in our police system was made by which thieves could be effectually hunted down and brought to justice, and any arrangement with them otherwise than arrest and punishment should be treated as a crime that of itself deserves the severest penalties of the law. Compounding a felony is putting a premium on crime, and no question of expediency or apparent hardship can be put in as a plea of extenuation.

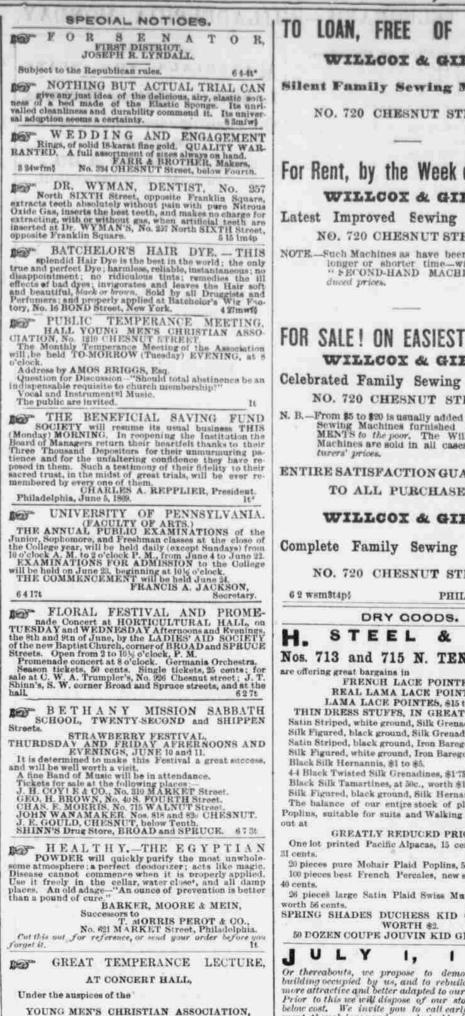
This business of the Beneficial Savings Fund is certainly a case for the investigation of the Grand Jury, and we sincerely hope that the whole matter will be thoroughly ventilated, and, if it can be proved that the thieves have been paid a percentage, whether through the medium of the detectives or not, that the guilty parties will be held strictly accountable. This appears to be an excellent opportunity to show up the evils of our present system of detective police, and the best interests of the community demand that an investigation of the mysterious transaction now perplexing the public at large should be made without further delay.

Streets

BY

DR. F. R. LEES, F. S. A.,

In connection with this affair, it is very singular that Detective Officers Taggart and Smith, who had been absent from the city for some time without any one having a knowledge of their whereabouts, should return on the same evening that the stolen bonds came to hand, ostensibly through Adams Express. To say the least, this was a remarkable coincidence that ought to be looked into. THE LEGAL STATUS OF TEXAS. THE Attorney-General has written an able and elaborate opinion affirming the right of a military commission in Texas to try and sentence to death one James Weaver, who, indignant that a freedmian had dared to leave his employ, punished this offense by shooting the unfortunate negro through the head, killing him instantly. The District Judge of the Second district of Texas notified the District Commander that a trial could not probably be had in the State courts. A jury of Texas ex-slaveholders would no doubt have made short work of the case, either by finding the defendant "not guilty," or, at the worst, classifying his crime as "justi-The District Comfiable homicide." mander, under the authority of the act of Congress of 1867, thereupon organized a military commission, which, after due investigation, found the defendant guilty, and sentenced him to death. This penalty cannot be inflicted, however, until it is approved by the President, and the practical point of the Attorney-General's opinion is that he finds "no reason in law for the President's withholding his approval." The decision of the Supreme Court pronouncing military commissions unconstitutional, under this ruling, does not apply to the unreconstructed States; and the law under which these proceedings have arisen is construed to be "a legislative declaration that in Texas the war which sprang from the Rebellion is not, to all intents and purposes, ended; and that it shall be held to continue until, in conformity with the legislative will, a State Government, republican in form and subordinate to the Constitution and laws of the United States, for which the act makes provision, shall have been re-established. INCREASED RAILROAD FACILITIES. On Friday last the Pennsylvania Railroad Company argely increased its field of operations by consummating a perpetual lease of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne, and Chicago Railroad, with all its branches. The lease will commence on the 1st of July next, and will run for nine hundred and ninety-nine years, the Pennsylvania Railroad agreeing to pay the sum of \$1,850,000 per annum, and the interest on the debt of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne, and Chicago Read. "By securing the control of this work and its connections, the Pennsylvania Railroad will largely increase its facilities and influence, and it is understood to he but a single step towards organizing a through line to Omaha, which will enable Philadelphia to compete effectually with New York for the carrying trade of the Pacific Railroad. As the line which the Pennsylvania Railroad has in contemplation will be two hundred miles shorter than the plation will be two hundred miles shorter than the New York line, an important advantage will be secured at the outset, which our merchants should exert themselves to improve to the utmost. There is no good reason why Philadelphia should not be the Atlantic terminus of the Pacific Raliroad; and the Pennsylvania Raliroad, by securing the Pitts-burg. Fort Wayne, and Chicago Road on such advan-tageous terms, places us in a position to carry out this design; and if the efforts of the company are seconded in a spirited manner by the business men of Philadelphia in general, there is no reason why New York cannot be distanced case's in the matter of the Pacific trade and travel.





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The Elequent Temperance Orator of England, MONDAY EVENING, June 7. Admission	Linens and Domestics. Dress Goods, etc., reduced BOYS' CLOTHING-FINE QUALITY-FIRST- CLASS FITTING, A No. 1, UNUSUALLY CHEAP, BOYS' CLOTHING. BOYS' CLOTHING. Linen Suits-Woollen Suits,	WILLIAM PAINTER BANKERS, NO. 36 SOUTH THIRD
OLOTHING.	Linen Suits-Woollen Suits, Linen Suits-Woollen Suits,	
JUSTICE !	GARIBALDIS, GARIBALDIS, Nota Bone.—The prices are cheaper than ever, and so	$\mathbf{n} = = = = =$
	Nota Bone.—The prices are cheaper than ever, and so low they fit every purse, as attested by our large daily sales. We invite ladies and the boys to call. Our object, to sell out to make room for the improvement.	ELLIOTT & D
LIBERTY !	COOPER & CONARD,	HAVING REMOVED TO THEIR N
ECONOMY!	S. E. COR. NINTH AND MARKET STS.,	No. 109 S. THIRD
AND	17fsm PHILADELPHIA. SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.	Are now prepared to transacts GENE BUSINESS, and deal in GOVERNME
FREE TRADE !		eurities, GOLD, BILLS, Etc. Receive MONEY ON DEPOSIT, allo
FREE IRADE :	JOHN W. THOMAS,	NEGOTIATE LOANS, giving special CANTILE PAPER.
To secure even-handed JUSTICE, just come and	405 and 407 N. SECOND St.,	Will execute orders for Stocks, Bon MISSION, at the Stock Exchanges of
see what splendid bargains are offered in the gor- geous stock of Spring and Summer Clothes just	Offers his entire stock of	York, Boston, and Baltimore.
prepared and exhibited to the public by	SUMMER DRESS GOODS	BOOTS AND SHO
ROCKHILL & WILSON.	AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.	
The fullest LIBERTY is to be enjoyed when the man who enjoys it is neatly dressed in a suit of New Spring Clothes, which fit him so comfortably as not	HERNANIS, GRENADINES, LAWNS, ORGAN- DIES, POPLINETTES, SUMMER POPLINS, MOHAIRS, ETC.	SPRING ST
to abridge the freedom of his motions. Such clothes are to be had at	ALSO, LAMA AND INDE LACES, In Points, Paletots, Rotunds, Sacques, Marie An-	BOOTS AND S
ROCKHILL & WILSON'S.	toinettes, and Zouaves, [8 27 3mrp	FOR
To practise ECONOMY, don't spend vast sums of	IN BLACK AND WHITE.	GENTS' W
money where extortionate people charge fancy prices for unsatisfactory clothing, but come and get the worth of every dollar you spend, at	1869. "AT THORNLEY'S,"	
ROCKHILL & WILSON'S.	DEMONSTRATION EXTRAORDINARY!	BARTLE
FREE TRADE of the freest sort practised every	ATTRACTION UNPARALLELED! PRICES PRESSED DOWN TO THE LOWEST	NO. 33 SOUTH SIXTH
day, and all day, at the GREAT BROWN STONE HALL. There the people bring their cash, and there	POINT!	
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ROCKHILL & WILSON,	Shetland Shawis, Thibet Shawis, Travelling Shawis, etc. Delaines, Calicoes, Ginghams, Tickings, etc. etc. Parasols, Sun Umbrellas, Corsets, Skirts, etc. etc.	AUNION
NOS. 603 AND 605 CHESNUT STREET	IMEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR. Linen Drills, Ducks, Checks, Stripes, etc. Cassimores, Cloths, Blouse Linens, Plaid Shirtings, etc. Housekeeping Linen Goods in every variety.	FULL NATURAL FLAVOR R
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