# SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Lending Journals
Upon Current Topics Compiled Every
Day for the Evening Telegraph.

CONDITION OF THE LABOR MARKET.

From the San Francisco Times.

The mass of information relative to the industrial condition of the State, furnished in the annual report of the Labor Exchange, is no less interesting than important; and seeing the immense benefits which that institution has conferred upon employers and employed, it becomes a matter for surprise that we should have so long neglected to avail ourselves of its advantages. The first thing that strikes us, in perusing this report, is the ex-traordinarily large number of applications and orders filled. During the time the Labor Exchange has been in operation-a period of some fourteen months only-employment has been found for 18,600 persons, of whom 14,662 were men and 4021 women.

The Labor Exchange of New York, during the past year, found employment for 31,143 persons, of whom 18,114 were males and 13,029 females. And yet, upward of 200,000 immigrants arrived last year in New York. It will be seen that the proportion of women is much larger in the Eastern labor market than it is here, though we must not forget that there are in this city many employment offices, which probably withdraw a large number of women from the operations of the

Labor Exchange.

The most significant fact shown by the report, however, and the most interesting, in connection with a question which is destined to enter largely into the politics of the time, is the effect of Chinese labor upon the labor market. During the last year demagogues have been busily engaged in prognosticating all kinds of evil from the influx of Asiatics. We have been told that they were taking the bread from the mouths of white men and women. We have been assured that the employment of Chinamen as domestics was driving away industrious and capable white girls, whose places were filled by the hateful, economical Mongol, Pictures have been drawn of able-bodied immigrants reduced to beggary in our streets, and an attempt has been made to create the impression that, so far as the labor market was concerned, John Chinaman had emulated Cæsar, and had come, seen, and conquered. And now what are the sober facts, as shown by figures which neither labor leaguers nor politicians can get round? The Chinese element has exerted no appreciable influence upon the labor market. All through the year the demand, in every class of occupations, has been steadily in advance of the supply. Although it is known that Chinese are largely employed as cooks and house servants, the demand for white girls has been constant, and invariably in excess of the supply. Nor has the rate of wages been affected at all. The prices paid to housemaids, laundresses, nurses, cooks, seamstresses, chambermaids, etc., vary from \$20 to \$35 and \$40 per month, with board, and still the cry is for more women. Over four thousand have been absorbed during the past year, and the demand is a active as ever. The report of the Labor Exchange contrasts the wages paid to demestics here and in England, and, as we think, rather overstates the amounts paid in the old country. We believe that from \$25 to \$35 a year is nearer the average than from \$40 to \$50; and though domestics in California earn more in one year than their less fortunate sisters can in ten years, they are not content.

But there is another stubborn fact for the consideration of the anti-coolie leagues, to be found in this report. Not only does it appear that the labor market has not been affected by the importation of Chinese, but we are the fact is that both skilled and unskilled labor has been for some months past rising in value." The needs of the country, now beginning to be opened up in all directions, cannot be supplied by the tide of immigration; and, though resort has been had to Chinese labor, the fact that the supply of white labor has been inadequate to meet the demand for it, proves that at least no bread has been taken out of the mouths of any white persons who have passed through the hands of

the Labor Exchange.

The opening of the Pacific Railroad has not

brought the great influx of laborers that was expected. No doubt large numbers of those who were employed on that enterprise have been retained in the interior to assist in the construction of other lines. Some have gone East; some have drifted off to settlements along the railroad; some have gone to White Pine to try their luck. In comparing the statistics of the Califor-

nia and the New York Labor Exchange, one significant point of difference is observable. At New York the excess of applications for employment over engagements last year was 4983. In San Francisco the excess of orders over applications during the same period, was 4838. That is to say, New York was unable to find employment for nearly five thousand applicants, while San Francisco was unable to fill nearly five thousand orders,

In considering the expectations of a large emigration over the Pacific Railroad, the difficulties of the way must be borne in mind. Three things are absolutely necessary to the establishment of such an immigration, viz.: convenient emigrant ears, low fares and quick travel. Up to the present time the railroad companies have seemed to consider that they had done their whole duty when they furnished emigrant trains, and no regard has been paid to the question of speed or the comfort of the passengers. The cost of provisions is generally an important item with emigrants, yet they are systematically delayed five and six days on journeys that should not occupy more than two at the most. The report of the New York Exchange of last year, alluding to this question, says:-

"At present fast freight trains occupy less time in travel than those carrying emigrants, and some of these trains, freighted with human beings, are com-pelled to give right of way to cattle trains.",

It is evident that with such a system we can never hope to secure our share of overland immigration. Arrangements should be perfected for hurrying emigrant trains through on schedule time, and an endeavor should be made to send them over the road at such a rate as will lessen as much as possible the dangers from the breaking out of illness on board the cars, which must always be taken into consideration where great numbers of persons are packed together.

ASA PACKER-DANIEL E. SICKLES-HORACE GREELEY.

From the N. Y. World.

The Democratic nominee for Governor of Pennsylvania happily vindicates the wisdom of his selection and assures his success before the people, alike by the praise which springs spontaneous from the lips of his friends and by the admissions compelled by his worth from the worst of his enemies at the very mention of his name.

Says the Tribune, in enforced praise of the

fashioned Yankee stock, left his native State when reventeen years old, with some \$19 in money and clothing of about equal value, and brought up in Susquehanna county, North Pennsylvania, where he apprenticed himself to learn the trade of carpenter and joiner, which he followed for some years thereand joiner, which he followed for some years thereafter, marrying in due season, and buying a tract of wild land, which he proceeded to clear and till. At length he pulled up stakes and struck for Mauch Chunk, the heart of the Lehigh coal region, whence he ran a coal boat to Philadelphia, then started a store, and soon engaged extensively is buying coal lands, building railroads, etc., etc., whereby he grew rapidly and enormously rich. He is now worth at least twenty millions of dolfars, and we believe he came honestly by them. Though we do not belong to his thrifty class, we appreciate them as useful men, and believe the world is better for their existence."

Though clumsily told, this brief story of the facts of Asa Packer's life—to which, it will be seen, it does insufficient justicecontains yet enough to demoestrate the mould and mettle of the man, and that ability and integrity in the discharge of his own affairs which will guarantee his worthy oversight of those of his adopted State.

Nevertheless, in what follows this reluctant tummary of Asa Packer's career, the comments are so double-edged as to wound the hand that wrote them. In his feeble effort to break the force of his own statement, the Tribune proceeds to remark:—"We don't like the idea of making a Governor out of one whose chief distinction is the ownership of twenty rillions of dollars." Nor does the Democratic party like or propose to enter-tain any such idea, Mr. Greeley. The "chief distinction" of Asa Packer's life is far from the accident of his wealth. It rests in the sagacity and honor and honesty with which he attained this wealth, and upon the noble philanthropy with which he has dispensed it. Yet there is "an idea," there is a "chief distinction," which this critic does like, and on the embodiment and possession of which he bases his "personal esteem, respect, and friendship." The man who slurs Asa Packer slavers Daniel E. Sickles. The one is in his view unfit to be Governor. The other is proper to be Minister to Spain and the recipient of praise in the Tribune and of the greeting and praise of its editor. For the gentleman, Christian, and philanthropist, Mr. Greeley has suspicion, sneers, and abuse. For the libertine, mail-rebber, pimp, panderer, adulterer, murderer, defaulter, and mutineer, Mr. Greeley has "personal esteem, respect, and friendship.'

Mark the difference! As a Packer left home and embarked in life with his entire youthful savings netting seventeen dollars. Daniel E. Sickles began at about the same age with \$100 extorted from the credulous generosity of Peter Cooper. This generosity he abused by squandering the money, which was a loan, in such licentious courses as led the man of whom he had borrowed it, and who would have willingly doubled the amount to an honest debtor, to cut him off forever. At the period when Asa Packer was "apprenticed to a carpenter and joiner," Daniel E. Sickles was a budding burglar of the mortgage of a trust estate, for the theft of which he stands indicted at the bar of his native city to-day. When Asa Packer "had married in due season," Daniel E. Sickles was living in open commerce with a public prostitute, and is credibly reported to have solicited for her from others such attentions as he gave her himself. At this stage, it was Packer the mechanic and Sickles the pimp.

While Asa Packer was "clearing wild land and tilling it," Daniel E. Sickles was robbing the Broadway Post-office and sitting cheekby-jowl with his and the public's trull in the Assembly Chamber at Albany.

While Asa Packer was amassing wealth and distributing it with a discrimination and abundance to which the benefactions of Mr, Peabody alone are equal, Daniel E. Sickles, having been pimp, burglar, mail robber, ballot-box stuffer and defaulter, became in quick and suitable succession adulterer and murderer and Radical

Among the acts which Asa Packer has done to attract the distrust of Mr. Greeley, has been the endowment with half a million dollars a university in which the youth of his State are gratuitously educated in all the practical sciences, and in the principles and practibes of a business career. As the outcome of his magnificent bounty, the Lehigh valley is filled with happy homes to-dayhomes whose heads or whose sons he has educated, and to whose success in life, and to whose standing and eminence in this age, his benevolence has chiefly contributed. poverished men and women, destitute orphan children, deserving and struggling charities, needy churches of all Christian faiths, know the name of Asa Packer only to bless it. He has maintained them from the riches which Heaven has rewarded his honorable and industrious labor, and ten thousand subjects of his lavish generosity to-day rise up and call him blessed from all parts of the Keystone State.

Among the acts which Daniel E. Sickles has done to win "the personal esteem, respect, and friendship" of Mr. Greeley are the robbery of his patron, the burglary of a mortgage, the pillage of the mails, the open endearment and companionship of a wanton, the adultery of decades, murder, and the reconsecration of a dishonored murrilage bed. It is fit that Mr. Greeley should contemn a Packer with the same lips with which he caresses a Sickles.

THE INCOME TAX-WHY NOT ABO-

LISH IT?

Several journals have lately published lists of the income returns of certain wealthy citizens. These returns are in many cases such as would stagger the faith of Quetelet and Buckle in the modern science of statistics, It has been said that figures, like dead men, never lie; but the very reverse would appear to be the truth if the figures relate to returns of this kind. A personal income tax is odious in all countries, and particularly so in the United States. In this free country a less offensive method of meeting the expenditures of the Government should be devised. It is here regarded as so manifestly inconsistent with the spirit of our institutions that scarcely any man scruples to evade its provisions. The fact is notorious that where this tax is levied on the sworn statement of individuals, it fails to come up to the true amount. The discrepancy between a return by the tax-payer of millions for one year and zero for another is too glaring not to provoke public attention. Moreover, only Government employes and salaried men have to pay the full amount. In the case of the former, the tax is levied on their monthly salaries and deducted from sums due to them. It is, in fact, collected in advance. Men not in Government employ are tempted to keep no account of their income and forget conveniently what they receive. In their case no proof of fraud exists. It is not uncommon for men living in fashionable style, keeping equipages and several servants, to return to the assessors an income of but a few hundred dollars. Those who ought to pay most escape scot free, while men whose incomes are known to be moderate are heavily overburdened. There is no way of remedying this inequality or of collect-Asa Packer, a smart Connecticut boy of old- ing the Government dues fairly and fully.

The income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding one thousand dollars. Take the case of an average family, which is estimated to consist of five persons, and the income payable by the father of the family is only two hundred dollars per head. Now, the necessary expenses of an individual in these times of high prices and depreciated currency are much greater than this sum; so that the tax on incomes, so called, is really a tax on ex-penditures. In other words, it is a tax on what has been expended for the necessaries of life-a tax which becomes, in the strong language of Adam Smith, "a curse equal to the barrenness of the soil and the inclemency of the heavens." It must thus be classed with those taxes which necessarily fall either on wages or on profits. In proportion as they diminish wages they must equally diminish the comforts and enjoyments of the largest and most important class in society, spreading pauperism, misery, and crimthroughout the country; and, as an able writer on political economy declares, "they cannot diminish profits without occasioning a corresponding diminution of the power to accumulate capital, and without also stimulating its transfer to those countries in which taxation is less oppressive." In the United States, where we can boast of a boundless extent of fertile and unappropriated land, and where no feudal privileges fetter the employment of industry or retard the accumulation of wealth, such taxes on the necessaries of life are at present less injurious than in the smaller and more densely populated countries of Europe. But even here the rapid increase of our population and the steady narrowing of our unoccupied territory will ultimately make such taxes a grievous burden. The flagrant injustice of an income tax which can be so unequally administered that the income returns of half a dozen wealthy citizens in New York exceed the total amount of the income returns of New Orleans is already patent. The income tax will expire by its own limitation next year, but why should not the coming Congress abolish it at

NO CHANGE.

From the N. Y. Tribune. A friend of General F. P. Blair's has revived a letter, written by that gentleman in 1865, to show that his respect for the Confederate heroes, which he manifested so offensively at the Long Branch banquet, is no new thing, but a feeling which he has always cherished. The letter in question is one introducing a clergyman who purposed erecting a "monumental cathedral" in honor of the Rebel dead, and Mr. Blair saw nothing to disapprove, but much to admire, in this effort to consummate (commemorate?) their virtues of consistency and courage." The clergyman's name is not given, but we presume he is the Rev. Mr. Rogers of Memphis, well known for some time as an advanced Ritualist, and now a Roman Catholic, whose project for a monuraental cathedral attracted, about four years ago, a good deal of interest. Mr. Rogers proposed that the surviving friends of Confederate warriors should be allowed to erect in the church statues, memorial windows, tablets, etc., inscribed with the names of any individuals whose deeds they chose thus to honor; so that there was no reason why Booth, Wirz, or any of the vilest agents of the secession conspiracy might not receive a sort of canonization, and the gorgeous rays through tinted panes shed down upon the worshippers an honorable reminiscence of treachery and murder. General Blair saw nothing to disapprove this this, and much to commend. We can respect the personal character of the men against whom we fought, but we don't see why they must be honored precisely because of their errors and offenses. The kindest thing we can do for them is to forget their st deeds, and look only to their present and their future.

General Blair's mistake is that of all the Democratic politicians. They are constantly straining their eyes to look beyond the line; when the war was at its height, they watched for salvation not in the national arms, but in the debates of Jeff. Davis' Congress. While our soldiers were laying down their lives for the Union, these foolish politicians were treasonably corresponding with the Rebel President. Mr. Pollard has recently told us of the mass of letters from Northern Democrats hidden away in Mr. Davis' private archives; of their offers to subsist the Southern armies out of our granaries and warehouses; and of the complete understanding between the Richmond Government and certain members of the Democratic National Convention of 1864. Anybody who doubts that an important section of the Democracy were intriguing during the war to secure the triumph of the Southern arms, can easily have his doubts removed by Mr. Pollard. Their fault was the same as Mr. Blair's; like the Bourbons, they neither learn nor forget. They cannot forget that the Northern Democracy, for years, pinned its hopes of success upon the favor of the South, flattered it, fawned upon it, obeyed its slightest wish. They cannot learn that war and emancipation have changed the whole aspect of the political field, and no party can now become established in power except by identifying itself with the interests of all the loyal portion of the country.

THE BETTER WAY. From the N. Y. Sun.

Some gentlemen from Canada have just arrived in Washington to talk over the subject of a new reciprocity treaty. Mr. Secretary Fish has welcomed them with the dignity and urbanity of a gentleman of the old school, and they are now solemnly deliberating on the provisions which they would like to have incorporated in a new convention. But if they make a treaty, will it be ratified? That is not so certain. Mr. Fish may think he can get it through, but so thought Mr. Seward about Reverdy Johnson's Alabama treaty, until the Hon. Charles Sumner knocked it higher than a kite. We don't believe that the sort of reciprocity which is now contemplated can fare much better.

But if our Canadian friends wish to make a treaty that will pass Congress and stand for a thousand years, let them negotiate for the admission into the American Union of the Canadas, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, Labrabor, Fritish Columbia, the Hudson's Bay Territory, Prince Rupert's Land, and all the rest of the continent north of the present frontier. That would make six or seven new States of the Union to start with, having Congressmen, Governors, Lieutenant Governors, United States Senators, Judges, spice upon Cuban filibusters, custom house officers postmasters, mail contractors, and internal revenue officers without number. What a prospect this would open to the ambition of the great men and patriots of the Dominion!
As for the new State Legislatures, the present members of the Provinvial and Dominion Parliaments are already sufficiently corrupt to enter into immediate competition with best that we have to show on this side of the line. In swindling railroad concerns the Canadians are also fully our equals. Indeed,

there is no great obstacle to the immediate conclusion of a treaty of annexation. Such a treaty might be finished before the meeting of Congress in December, and consummated in season for the Hon Joseph Howe, the eloquent statesman of Nova Scotia, to be appointed Secretary of the Navy in Mr. Robeson's place before the end of President Grant's first year of office; and we will undertake that he will not be in office half an hour without revoking Borie's illegal order giving British names to American ships. Let the Canadian Commissioners reflect seriously on this subject. If their overtures for annexation are cautiously made, we have no doubt Mr. Fish will receive them in a kindred spirit. By this means they will get a real and not a sham reciprocity; and they may be sure that their constituents will never be in danger of losing again the advantages secured for them by their efforts.

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The Auditors appointed by the Court to audit, settle,
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CHURCHMAN, deceased, and to report distribution of
the balance in the hands of the accountant, will meet the
parties interested for the purpose of his appointment
on TUESDAY, the 26th day of July instant, at 11 o'clock
A. M., at his office, No. 118 S. SIXTH Street, second
serv, in the city of Philadelphia.

7 8 mbt

EGBERT K. NICHOLS, Auditor. BANKRUPTCY .- EASTERN DISTRICT

IN BANKRUPTCY.—EASTERN DISTRI-of Pennsylvania, ss., at Philadelphia, the little day may, A. D. 1868.

The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointm May, A. D. 1898.

The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as assignee of WHALAM H. CARY, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, within said District, who has been adjudged bankrupt, upon his own petition, by the District Court of said District.

7. 12 m3t No. 124 N. SIXTH Street, Philadelphia. IN BANKRUPTCY .- EASTERN DISTRICT

May, A. D. 1868.

The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as assignee of ISAIAH ALDRIOH and JONES YERKES, both of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, within said District, who have been adjudged bankrupts upon their own petition by the District Court of said District.

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