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

SPINDLES FOR THE SOUTH From the N. Y. Tribune.

The egg-nog and roast turkey of Christmas festivity will this year represent a widespread and genuine congratulation over well-based prosperity in the South. When the present crop is moved, and the planter receives a balance-sheet from his merchant, he may feel himself a rich man. His crop has rarely sold higher, and the early part of the season was so favorable that he has less grain to buy, less pork and cloth and leather, than ever before. He may need more mules; many will indulge in a handsome pair of carriage horses; but after all reasonable outlays there will be a great deal of surplus money in the South. Will not our brethren of the cotton-belt listen to us while we urge them to invest that surplus not in gay horses or a new saddle, not in silver-mounted revolvers, Axminster carpets, or brocade silks, but in spindles?

A fresh and brilliant career of greatness is open to the South, if she can but see her true and lasting interest. To buy land and laborers has been her traditional policy, her hereditary passion. Laborers she cannot now purchase; of land she has too much for the wisest tillage. Her territory is so pierced with navigable streams, that the call for more railroads is not imperative. The most sagacious of her public men are duly alive to the importance of establishing manufactures, but all are not informed as to what manufactures are just now the best for the South. This we propose to consider. No part of the Earth's surface can compete with our cotton belt in the case and certainty with which cottons of long, fine, even staple can be raised. This grand advantage springs from our peculiar climate, and this is determined by geographi-

Other regions, as India, Egypt, Brazil, and the African coast, can supply to the clamorons looms of Lancashire sufficient cotton for lower grades of cloth, and for the coarser yarns used in filling. But for the long, fine threads required in the muslins, lawns, fine prints, and highest grades of shirtings and sheetings. American thread cannot be replaced. Cotton thread, fine, strong, and even, is the precise article which England most needs from us, and she must continue to require it as long as she has that immense surplus population beseeching work that they may live, requiring additional looms to keep them from the poor loaf and thin soup of pauperism. These cotton yarns can be spun at the South at less cost, with less waste, by as cheap labor, fed by as cheap food, as in any part of the world. There are immense pine forests to supply fuel, the weather is so mild that spinning bouses would consume but a trifle for heat, and spinning can be done by that large class of half hands, the crippled, the old and young, those feeble in body and abased in spirit, with whom the South abounds. For manufactures of the highest class, arts which require vigilance and skill, a trained eye and a nice touch at every stage of an operation, the South does not nowfurnish a full supply of the grade of labor required. But to tend the cylinders, cards, jack frames, and ring traveller frames, by which cotton lint is converted into cotton yarns, numbering from 20 to 40, does not require a better operative than the plantations and the pine woods of the cotton belt can turn out in abundance. A spinning-house, fully equipped with every wheel and spindle required for converting annually a thousand bales into yarn, with comfortable cabins for spinners, can be put up for \$50,000. The net profits of such a mill may be about \$20,000 a year. Think of the immense increase of wealth and power to a community to be gained by supplying such an empire as the British with an article of prime necessity and pocketing twenty dollars a bale gain over and above the profit of growing the cotton! The South thinks she needs more agricultural laborers, more Africans or Asiatics. That is her error. She needs more of the descendants of Japheth, not Normans with hereditary pride of blood and of acres, but the patient, skilful, industrious artisan, the artificer in brass and copper, the man who thinks in iron. Upon this class depends the world-wide vigor and grasp of the British empire-this class it was that gave the North her victory. The South does not lack the foresight and the thrift to see that her future power and an unchallenged equality in national affairs depend not on a plough-beam but on a cog-wheel.

THE COAL STRIKE. From the N. Y. Times.

The scene has changed again at Scranton, Eccentric as the movements of the miners generally are, their last turnsbout has been unusually sudden. On Monday a riot was imminent. A thousand men and more had assembled from the surrounding coal fields to overawe those miners who were disposed to accept the Scranton company's terms and go to work. Against them had gathered seven hundred citizens enrolled as a volunteer force under Colonel Boyce, and a large body of police headed by the Mayor. On Tuesday, however, the outsiders, or "invaders," as the despatches call them, broke camp and abandoned the field.

The strike sprang from the efforts of the miners to establish the "basis" system of payment throughout the anthracite field. And its long continuance may be charged to the existence of that basis in a part of this field. With coal at the rates to which it has been forced, the men working on the basis could afford to aid their brethren on strike, and these latter were themselves able, even on the other system, "to work half the season, and lie idle on strike the other half, without trouble.

But the injustice of the strike culminated when these men who have worked all summer on the basis declared, the other day, to those who had been holding out, that they should only go to work again on their terms. By taking that position, they have hitherto pre vented the Delaware and Hudson men and the Delaware and Lackawanna men from working to any extent, although the latter were offered an advance amounting to fortyseven per cent. over the spring wages.

The original rejection of this proposition showed that what the miners were aiming at, was not an increase of wages, but the busis; and their real "basis" amounted, apparently, to the plan of doing pretty much as they pleased, without regard to the value of coal properties. The basis substantially proposes to turn over the control of the mines from the companies that now own them to the Miners' Union, in direct injury to the public outside of the anthracite field. For, taking coal at tidewater at \$5 as a basis, which is only a fair price for the producer, the Union thereupon fixes an arbitrary price for mining, adding the stipulation that if the price shall advance above \$5, it shall have ten per cent.

That is a somewhat one-sided proposition. Again, it declares to the operators that they shall employ no workmen except such as belong to the Union, nor exchange a man except by its consent.

There were but two companies, the Lebigh Coal and Navigation Company and the Wilkesbarre Coal and Iron Company, that submitted to the basis. They have been working all summer, and, of course, with a great profit, as the other companies refused to submit, and lay idle. As soon, however, as they shall have become strong enough to resist the basis, their interest also will be to control their own affairs, in which case new and worse trouble may come.

The consequence of this protracted conflict is that the public suffers and probably will continue to suffer-several millions of people for a few thousands. On the one hand, we observe the enormous cost of production by the basis system, on the other hand the large advances now made to the strikers over the spring wages. People have been holding back everywhere from buying coal; nevertheless, with the first days of autumn already here, they will soon be forced to lay in the winter's stock. But the great mines have long been idle, and the rate of production needful to supply the winter's demand is, of course, very far in arrears. The consequence is that a cold snap may bring the fact to the public mind that coal is needed, and that coal will probably be even higher yet before midwinter. After the first of January only may we hope for an important decline, And for this fine state of affairs, present and prospective, in a commodity as important as bread itself, we may thank the

There has been a general desire, in this exigency, to take the duties from foreign coal. This ought to be done; but it will not relieve the present necessity, simply because bituminous coal cannot be used by us for domestic purposes, except in open grates, and hence its free admission, though desirable on all grounds, would probably not affect the price of anthracite twenty cents a ton. To illustrate our meaning by a single example, there is a company running boats to Halifax, where the Nova Scotia coal can be bought at less than \$3 a ton, which now carries anthracite coal to that point at \$10 a ton! Even our Cumberland coal is far superior to the Pietou; and, in fact, this is probably one of the best steam coals in the world. The substitution of the Cumberland coal, which has never risen in price by reason of the strikes, throughout our manufactories, might relieve the demand for anthracite, and thus help to give us what the general public demands, namely, cheap anthracite for domestic use.

THE CHINESE TREATY. From the Reston Post,

There has been a degree of mystery about the ministry to China ever since Mr. Burlingame's resignation to accept the lead of the Chinese Embassy. Mr. J. Ross Browne had received the appointment of American Minister, but was nardly arrived out when Hon. W. A. Howard, of Michigan, was appointed by President Grant to supersede him. Mr. Howard declined the place on the ground of business engagements at home. Meantime Mr. Browne returned to the Pacific coast, and soon afterward we receive accounts of his speeches, and of at least one letter from his hand that tends to throw serious discredit upon the whole character of Mr. Burlingame's mission, and to create the very impression concerning the respect due Chinese authority at home which best suits the views of English and French resident merchants. As Mr. Browne is now in the country, having declared his unwillingness to return to Pekin even if requested, it is within his power to explain the circumstances which now throw a

cloud over his diplomatic career. That the trouble at Pekin over the Burlingame Embassy treaty is the fruit of English and French influence occurs to every one on the instant. The specific object of the Burlingame mission to the United States, Belgium, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, North Germany, Prussia, Spain, and Sweden, was to procure for the central government of China that formal recognition from leading foreign powers which would at once put an end to the petty provincial complications which English and French merchants sedulously encouraged. It has been the interested habit of the latter to bring their complaints against the Governors of the provinces, and to seek reparation of them for alleged wrongs, declining to recognize any other or higher authority. They had a deliberate motive for this; their object was to Indianize the empire by commercially invading it by separate provinces; settling their differences only with the petty Governors, and thus, by ignoring the Pekin Government, disintegrating the empire. The entering wedge of this plot was a commercial, and therefore an apparently peaceful one, but the understanding was that their governments were ready to sustain their claims as soon as they could work up cases of alleged outrage. We see almost the same spirit operating in the Sandwich Islands, the offspring of the purest jealousy of the United States and of a determination to overron all the foreign countries possible.

Mr. Burlingame fortunately persuaded the Imperial Government at Pekin that if the Chinese Empire could once be brought within the pale of international law, through the establishment of an equal and advantageous treaty with foreign powers, it would be possible to make a final end of this scheme of invasion under the guise of commerce. Such a treaty was concluded with our Government first as befitted the circumstances. He had next to run the gauntlet of England and France, in which he manifested marked skill and ability as a diplomatist, and ended with triumphantly carrying his point. The rest of his task, with such momentum as he has now secured for it in public favor, will be comparatively easy. And just at the high tide of his success, seeing that it is sure to devote their own selfish schemes to destruction, it is not singular that the English and French merchants in China should have made the most strenuous exertions both to procure the rejection of the treaty by the Pekin government, and to throw discredit upon the character of the embassy itself. They likewise practised a refinement of revenge in having it go abroad that it is the treaty with the United States which is rejected, thereby seek ing to affix a stigma on the accredited head of the embassy as well as on the general authority under which it acted.

In working Mr. Browne, the immediate successor of Mr. Burlingame, into their project, they shrewdly found an instrument already inclined to their own views. He left the Pacific coast to enter upon his duties as Minister with all the California prejudices against the Chinese strong upon him. If he has gone so reprehensibly out of his way in making a reply to the address of British merchants at Shanghae, as to gratuitously denounce the policy of Mr. Burlingame, the reason of his sudden recall will be at once apparent, and the necessity for a personal vindication of of the advance on prices at the mines; but if his conduct very urgent. For he must know prices go below \$5, it shall make no reduction. as well as Mr. Burlingame does, and appreci-

ate the fact as thoroughly as his own Government, that it is for the interest of the United States that this piratical system of English and French merchants should be thwarted. And it cannot have escaped his reflection that the surest way of doing that is by engaging foreign governments by treaty to recognize and respect none but the central government of the empire. If his convictions lay in the other direction, it belonged to him as a man of ordinary candor to make the truth known on being nominated as Mr. Burlingame's suc-

We should be glad to allow for any misapprehension of the truth of this whole matter which may yet be exposed, but if that should not occur, it will remain with Mr. Browne to clear up the shadow that lies across his brief career as a diplomatist. If his sentiments are in fact as reported, and he is willing to become the instrument, or tool, of foreign merchants in China for the disadvantage of his own country, by assisting in dismantling the Chinese Imperial Government, it is simply a matter for common congratulation that his diplomatic life was brought to an end before his aptness for public mischief was supplemented by his ability.

HEALTH OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

From the N. Y. World. The disquieting apprehensions respecting the illness of the French Emperor, which have lately filled Paris with consternation, and spread anxiety through every European capital, are allayed by an authentic statement that his indisposition was not really serious, and that he has so far recovered from it as to be able to give his attention to affairs of state. This reassuring news relieves the fears of Europe for the time being; but it cannot efface the painful impression that the tranquillity of France, and perhaps the peace of the world, hangs by so frail a thread as the life of a man whose physical vigor is supposed to be drained almost to the point of exhaustion. The age of the Emperor is not so advanced that it should cause every transient illness to be regarded as the forcrunner of a fatal change. He is but one year older than Gladstone; he is there years younger than Disraeli; and everybody thinks of these statesmen as still in the prime of a vigorous activity. But Napoleon has been a man of pleasure, as well as of study, labor, and business; and there is an impression that exhausting passions have sapped his constitution. Be this as it may, his sagacity and intellectual force seem of late years to have deserted him. Since the Prussian war and the ill-starred Mexican expedition, there has been a great decline of his prestige, and the elections of this year show that his influence totters in all the cities and large towns of France. He has taken the elections to heart, and initiated changes which hold out the hope of a government that will express the collective sense of the nation rather than the personal will of an individual ruler. If he should be cut off in the midst of this experiment, with his former system a confessed failure and the new system not yet established, it is probable that France would flounder through terrible period of revolution and anarchy

of which no man is wise enough to predict the

The alarm which has attended the recent illness of the Emperor supplies one of the strongest arguments which this age has furnished against what is called personal government. There have been few instances in modern history of the government of a nation by the will of a single individual, so successful, and on the whole so beneficial, as the government of France by Napoleon the Third, during the first twelve years of his reign. The first twelve years of his illustrious uncle as First Consul and Emperor were indeed more splendid and dazzling; but the material prosperity of France has never been more remarkable than under the present Emperor. But a brief period of prosperity, to be followed by an era of confusion and calamity, does not realize the ideal of good government. Prosperity that cannot propagate itself, that makes no provision for its own perpetuity, seems rather an accident in the life of a nation than the legitimate fruit of a settled system. But the prosperity that attends personal government is generally of this transient, accidental character. The two most splendid reigns in the French annalsthat of Charlemagne and that of the first Napoleon-were followed by periods of distraction and humiliation. Great men at the head of a nation are exceptions in the world's history; and even great men succeed in government only by embodying the spirit of the age and giving effect to the wishes of the nation over which they rule. The essence of political greatness consists in a quick and intuitive perception of the wants and aspirations of the people, and in the ability to devise measures for satisfying the national cravings. A man of great genius may sometimes govern a people more wisely than they could have governed themselves, because he sees with clearness what they only grope after vaguely, and is able to reach at once, by a stroke of ready sagacity, conclusions which they would have arrived at insperfectly, after much hesitation and debate. But the misfortune is, that a nation which has a ruler to think for it loses by disuse the faculty of thinking and planning for itself: and if that ruler has not an equally able successor, the capacity for good government becomes extinct on his death. Genius s the rare gift of Providence; and the habits and training which fit a people for self-government are not the gift of a sudden emergency but the slow growth of time. It is better that the business of government should be somewhat rudely performed under a system that secures its own perpetuity, than that a nation should enjoy transient flashes of prosperity to be succeeded by periods of imbecility or turulence.

There has never been a time, since the first French Revolution, when the sudden death of any man in England or the United States would have endangered the safety, or even the tranquillity, of either nation. Pitt had a greater ascendancy over England than any other statesman of his time; but he was out of office for several years before his death, and it was after his death and without his aid that England made the colossal exertions by which Napoleon was dethroned and sent into exile. Even Washington was never necessary to the success of our great experiment of free government. He was not active in originatng our Constitution, and was drawn by the persuasion of others to consent to be a member of the convention that framed it. In that body he merely acted the dumb part of presiding officer, contributing not an idea nor a suggestion. He was a wise but not a brilliant President, and was so far from being fertile in ideas or measures that he originated nothing during his eight years administration, and made no other contribution to the success of the Government than the prestige of his great name. England and the United States have lost many statesmen who were deeply and sincerely mourned; but the regret has always been merely reverential and affectionate, and never in any one in-

stance accompanied with misgivings that the country would not be as well governed as before. This well-grounded feeling of permanence and security is one of the chief advantages of representative government, which trains political capacity in such abundance, and affords such ready channels for public opinion to act upon rulers, that the national prosperity is never felt to be staked upon the life of one man.

during the whole life even of an able and sagacious ruler. The early part of such a reign is generally better than its latter end. Such a ruler, at the outset of his reign, establishes his ascendancy by representing the spirit and carrying out the real wishes of his nation: but he is apt to be intoxicated by success, filled with overweening confidence in him-self, and tempted into undertakings which are prompted merely by the aspirations of personal vanity or thirst for glory, and not by the felt wants of his people. When he passes into this stage, he comes as dangerous as he had previously been useful; the overbearing ascendancy acquired by his past career exempting him from every check but that which comes too late by disaster and mortification. It was by such overweening egotism, spurning all advice, that the first Napoleon was hurried into his fatal Russian campaign. It was by obeying the aspirations of his own vanity, unsupported by the public sentiment of France, that the present Emperor made his great mistake of the Mexican expedition. There is no safety for any people, even with the ablest rulers, unless there is some regular machinery for bringing the public intelligence to act upon the government and restraining the vagaries to which statesmen are subject when a successful career has inspired them with a foolish belief in their personal infallibility or omnipotence.

Louis Napoleon has at length discoveredbut, unless his life is still prolonged for a few years, has discovered too late-that the only security for the permanence of his dynasty consists in political institutions which will bring the Government under the coutrol of the national will. If he should be taken away now, while the change is merely initiated but not established, and his son a mere boy requiring the tutelage of a regency, his influence probably would not survive him for three months. It needs his strong hand and his experience to steady the new institutions until time and use shall render them self-acting. If he is spared for this work, and accomplishes it in a sagacions, liberal spirit, he may transmit his authority, greatly retrenched and curtailed, to his son. The tranquillity of France is staked upon his success in this postponed and belated task.

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LEGAL NOTICES. ESTATE OF JOHN W. GRIGG.—LETTERS testamentary having been granted by the Register of the city and county of Fhiladelphia upon the will of JOHN W. GRIGG, deceased, all persons having claims on the deceased are requested to notify the Executors, and all persons indebted are requested to make payment to

dested to hotty the Executors, are requested to make payment GEORGE W. BIDDLE, No. 28 S. FIFTH Street, CHARES B. DUNN, No. 226 WALNUT Street, Executors. IN THE ORPHANS COURT FOR THE CITY

IN THE ORPHANS COURT FOR THE CITY
AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA.

Estate of GEORGE F, STUCKERT, deceased,
The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit, settle, and
adjust the account of HOLSTEIN DE HAVEN, Administrator of estate of GEORGE F, STUCKERT, 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, September 14,
1869, at 4 o'clock P, M., at his office, No. 811 ARCH
Street, in the city of Philadelphia.

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