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THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1869.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

THE PENNSYLVANIA AND OHIO ELEC-

TIONS. From the N. Y. World.

The elections for State officers in Pennsylvania and Ohio will take place on Tuesday, October 12. Although special interest at-taches to the results, since in each case a Governor is to be chosen, in neither State has the campaign been prosecuted with much outward show of vigor. The grand rallyings of the two political parties, accompanied with stirring music, gorgeously bedecked banners, and speeches of political champions, seem to have been discarded as if by agreement be-tween the parties concerned. This state of affairs we attribute rather to the natural re-action from the strain of the excited Presidential campaign of last year than to the lack of interest on the part of the friends of the candidates before the people.

It appears to be generally conceded that Asa Packer, the Democratic candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, will be elected over his competitor, John W. Geary. The latter, it is true, has the advantage of holding that office now and of exerting for his own interest such influence as inheres in it; but his administration has been inefficient, and he has made himself unpopular with a portion of his party. The radicals are divided in counsel, and Governor Geary, by essaying to secure the friendship of each faction, has incurred the distrust of all. The vote will probably be light as compared with that of last year, at which time the State polled a larger vote than ever before. Governor Geary was elected in 1866 by a majority of 17,178, in a total vote of 597,370. In 1867, at an election for Justice of the Supreme Court, the total vote was 534,575, and the majority for the Democratic candidate 927. At the election for Auditor-General, last October, the total vote reached the unprecedentedly high figure of 653, 155, and the radical majority was 9677. Three weeks later, at the Presidential election, there were polled 655,662 votes, out of which Grant received a majority of 28,898. It is obvious from these figures that to overcome the average radical majority of 13,704 at the last four elections will be a most brilliant triumph for the Democracy, second only to the wresting of New York State from radical rule in 1867, and again in 1868. Asa Packer possesses ability, familiarity with the affairs of his State, integrity and popularity, and bids fair to win the day in the face of the obstacle just mentioned. That he will do this is the earnest hope of every Democrat in the land.

The canvass in Ohio is, in some respects, neculiar. The Democrats, after going somewhat outside of their ranks to select General Rosecrans for their leader, upon his declination, for private reasons, of the honor, called to the front their particular champion, George H. Pendleton. It is believed that he can poll a larger vote in Ohio than any other Democrat, both by reason of his personal popularity and the prominent position he has occupied in national politics since 1864. Unfortunately for kim and his supporters, he is prevented by the results of an accident from stumping the State. As a speaker, Mr. Pendleton is effective and persuasive, and less likely to lose a friend than to win over an opponent. He is, moreover, regarded as the originator and special advocate of paying the national debt in greenbacks, and, inasmuch as he has revived this issue quite recently, his election will be claimed as the indorsement by his own State of his pet theory. That the radicals feel concerned as to the result of | Sickles. the election is evident from the fact that they have flooded the State with speakers, among whom are some of their ablest men. In Governor Hays, per se, Mr. Pendleton has a weak opponent, the former being a very ordinary sort of a man, and possessed of none of the qualities which win popularity. Two years ago he was elected by the meagre majority of 2983, in a total vote of 484,227. Last fall, at the State election, 516,750 votes were polled, of which the radical candidate Grant carried the State by 40,617 majority, the total vote of the State being 519,829. Comparing the votes at these several elections, it is ascertained that the average radical majority was 20,324, which Mr. Pendle-ton has to overcome to be the next Governor of Ohio. The vote, we opine, will be much lighter than either of those of last year, and the Democrats of the Buckeye State express full confidence in the election of Mr. Pendleton. Should their hopes be realized (as we trust they may), and should Asa Packer carry Pennsylvania, the Democratic party, after the election in New York State, in November, will start the new year with the control of the three largest States in the Union.

straight to them, and they would avoid New | whom he resembled in many respects. Like Vork does and commissions. It is a dazzling | Fenelon, he was noted for his devoted piety. picture, and if our present method of admin istering justice continue, it will not be difficult to draw away any amount of business from this metropolis. Besides, new channels of traffic are always among the surest means of recovering the prosperity of a community Whether the same amount of money would go further in the direction which the Commodore proposes than in any other, we are not prepared to say.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS. From the N. Y. Tribune.

The collision on the Pennsylvania and New York Railroad on Monday seems, prima fucia to have been the result of gross mismanage ment. In consequence of a fog the engineer of an express train was unable to see a signal flag sent out to warn him that there was another train taking in water on the track, and so there was a collision with the loss of two lives, and serious injury to several passengers. Collisions at sea in a fog may sometimes be unavoidable, but that the safety of railway trains should depend upon clear weather is monstrous. All danger from such causes as produced this latest accident might be avoided by an adoption of the "block system" which works so well on English railways, and an extensive use of the tolegraph for insuring a clear course. No interval of time, be it five minutes or one hour, affords a sufficient margin of safety in shuuting local or freight trains, which are themselves liable to detention or accident, out of the way of express trains, which may or may not be late. There seem to be a natural warfare between freight and passenger trains which nothing but an interval of space can obviate. On some of the lines of railway running out of London, trains follow one another in quick succession at half-mile, not half-hour, intervals, under the block system, from year's end to year's end without the slightest accident. If an express train cannot pass beyond station No. 1 till the telegraph reports that the line is clear as far as station No. 2, and if no local or freight train is allowed to move from a siding, or cross from any junction, between these two tations till the telegraph reports that the express train has left station No. 2, it is patent hat no accident can occur except from the negligence of the officials, or from unavoidable causes.

The causes of preventable railway accidents are so numerous and so terrible in their consequences, that travellers can only insure their lives heavily, and shut their eyes during the journey. Nervous people had far better remain at home. Defective construetion of the track, failure to keep it in proper working order, want of signals, neglect of signals, the overworking of signalmen, the eaving of empty cars on the main track, inadequate siding accommodation, the careless way in which freight trains are allowed to perform a kind of Scotch reel in and out among express trains travelling at the rate of thirty miles an hour, and above all the neglect of the block system, are elements of danger enough to warrant the life insurance offices in refusing policies to habitual railway travellers. If fog is now to be added to the other perils of the way, we may as well resign ourselves to wholesale destruction.

THE CUBAN QUESTION BECOMING SERIOUS.

From the N. Y. Herald.

By telegraph from Washington, and through the Atlantic cable from Europe, comes to us intelligence of very serious import-if it can be received as true in fact-relative to the Cuban question, the course of our diplomacy in Madrid, and its consequences as regards the present position of our Minister, General before the Spaniards and in the eyes of the people of Europe and the American nation, by reason of the alleged action of the Cabinet in Washington. It was positively asserted in the national capital recently that the administration had made a "clean back down" from the tenor and tone of the Sickles notes, and that this movement, or Government retrocession, was undertaken in the face or the fear, if it must be so said, of a war with Spain. It is reported that the Government thinks that Minister Sickles exfor Secretary of State obtained a ma-ority of 17,372, and three weeks later the main allegation is to the effect that the Cabinet of the United States has become alarmed at the violently belligerent tone of the Spaniards, has repudiated General Sickles' action, and is prepared to censure him. We can soarcely credit these reports, notwith-standing the fact that they are worded in the very positive language which we submit to our readers. Coincident with the statements from Washington we have our cable telegrams of Tuesday from Europe showing that the Paris correspondent of a leading journal undertakes to advise, in trae John Bull style, the United States Senate not to confirm General Sickles' appointment to Madrid, covering his inso-lence under the assumed conviction that the Minister does not possess sufficient experience for the management of such an international negotiatory crisis, and by advising Spain to hold on to the island. A London newspaper organ of the old Tory party of England is more cautious in its editorial expression, but still gives a collateral political support to the Spanish executive. Contemporaneous with all we know of the facts of the Prim tactics at St. Cloud, and the arrival of Lord Clarendon in Paris, we hear that Prince Metternich, of Austria, has reached the French capital. This looks like a European coalition, pointing eastward or to the west, as the case may be; but no matter for that, the people of the United States know that Sickles has done his part, and the question now is, will he be supported, or will we "back down?"

for his captivating eloquence, and for his in-sensibility to the blandishments or the terrors of authority. Like Fencion, too, his opinions have encountered the censures of the Vatican. Here the resemblance appears to end. Fenelon repudiated the book and the opinions which had provoked his censure. Father Hyacinthe forsakes the Church rather than forsake his convictions. It remains to be seen whether it was the difference in the temperament of these two men, or of the epochs in which they lived, to which their diversity of action under corresponding exigencies is to be attributed.

GIVE US ADMIRAL HOFF'S REPORT. From the N. Y. Sun

It was Admiral Hoff's misfortune to be suffering from ill-health at the time a vigorous constitution was required to grapple with the exigencies of Cuban affairs; but this is no reason why he should be snubbed by our new Ancient Mariner Robeson. If he has failed to perform his duty, let him be called to account by a court; but until he is proven to have acted in a manner unbecoming his position and his instructions, he is entitled to be treated with as much respect by Borie II as Admiral Porter himself. If, as is alleged, Robeson puts on airs with officers whom he regards as played out, this gross breach of courtesy and dignity will recoil upon himself, and will not injure Admiral Hoff.

The secrecy, however, which the Government observes in regard to the report of the late commander of our Cuban squadron excites suspicions which the administration should at once dispel, both in justice to that distinguished naval officer, and in order to tranquillize the public mind. Secretiveness suits the atmosphere of a despotic court much better than that of a republic. When the question is to ascertain the circumstances under which American citizens have lost their lives, it is a matter of public concern, and the country is entitled to know the trath, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. Is Mr. Fish afraid that the exposure of these circumstances may excite public feeling, and force him to relapse for once from masterly inactivity to masterly activity? Or does he believe that the State Department is an irresponsible and close corporation, which can e permitted to act autocratically? Let us have Admiral Hoff's report, and let the American people pronounce upon its merits or We want none of your secrecy, demerits. Mr. Fish, when Spanish slavedrivers cut our citizens' throats !

TERRIBLE AFFRAY.

A Fatal Encounter in Bedford, Virginia.

On Sunday last, during the service at Left-wich's Meeting House, in the southeastern part of this county, a terrible affray occurred, which has resulted, we fear, in the death of an esti-mable eitizen. We are unable to report fully all the facts connected with this melancholy occurrence, but we believe the following to be substantially correct:--A child, sitting on one of the benches under an arbor, threw a peach stone which struck a young man, who instantly resented it by throwing a rock at the child, which hurt him severely. The father of the child wit-nessed the transaction from a window in the church, and immediately came out and struck the young man who had thrown the stone. This brought on a fight between the father and brother of the two parties. They retired to a spot a short distance from the church, and fought with knives and stones until Mr. John E. Witt was struck upon the temple by a stone, fracturing his skull, and, in all probability, fatally wounding him. At first it was thought that he was dead, but yesterday he was still breathing, although in a perfectly unconscious condition A young man, whose name we have not learned was also badly if not dangerously wounded wi a knife. We are pained to record that so bru and horrible an affair could have occurred Bedford county. We forbear further comme till all the facts are fully ascertained.—Belfo (Va.) Sentinel.

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MISS BONNEY AND MISS DILLAYE WILL reopen their BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL (wentieth year), Sept. 15, at No. 1815 UHISSNUT, Street. Particulars from Circulars. 8167w MISS BURNHAM'S SCHOOL FOR YOUNG

IVI Ladies opens Sectember 20. Personal interview can be had, after September 6, at No. 1616 Filbert street. For circulars, address F. E. GOURLAY, Esq., No. 66 WALNUT Street. 221 Im MISS JENNIE T. BECK, TEACHER OF

Piano, will resume her duties September 6, at No 746 FLORIDA Street, between Eleventh and Twelfth 91.2m A MERICAN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC. OFFICE No. 1:24 WALNUT Street. CLASS ROOMS, 1:24 WALNUT and 557 N. BROAD. FALL QUARTER will begin MONDAY, October II, 1869. CIECULASS AT THE MUSIC STORES, Pichstol24

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Miss E. T. BROWN desires to announce that she will open on TUESDAY, Soptember 21, at No. 4055 OHES, NUT Street, West Philadelphus, the late Residence of the Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D., a school for Young Ladies. Oir culars may be had on application at the school, on and after Wednesdey, September 15. 911 lift SINGING ACADEMY, No. 812 ARCH Street, Second Story Frant, The undersigned havin secured the above central location, is engaged in fitting i up for class instruction in the Rudiments of Singing, Vo calization, Glee, and Madrigal Singing. Full particular in a few days. Private Lessons as usual. The Starting St A, R. TAVLOR, No. 1207 FILBERT Street 9 11 2w THE EDGEHILL SCHOOL a Boarding and Day School for Boys, will begin its next mession in the new Academy Building at MERCHANTVILLE, NEW JERSEY,

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aught without extra charge. By order of the Trustees, GEORGE W. HUNTER, Treasurer. The Session will open on MONDAY, September 6. Ap-plications for admission may be made during the pro-ceding week, between 10 and 12 o'clock in the morning. JAMES W. ROBINS, 8 16 mwf 6w Head Master. An English, Classical, Mathematical, Scientific All Physics, Chaster, Muthematical, Scienting and Artistic Institution, FOR YOUNG MEN AND BOYS! At Pottstown, Montgomery County, Pa. The First Term of the Nineteenth Annual Session will commence on WEDNESDAY, the 2th day of September next. Pupils received at any time. For Circulars address BEV. GEORGE F. MILLER, A. M. Princinal

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WHY CINCINNATI LANGUISHES. From the N. Y. Times

Commander M. F. Maury has offered some explanations to the people of Cincinnati on this point. He recalls the early promise of the city, and contrasts it with its actual position. Once Cincinnati was the commercial focus of the Ohio valley. When the Erie Canal was opened an impetus was given to the construction of canals between the Ohio and the lakes. These canals gave Cincinnati a valuable trade with New York, and very soon she acquired the proud title of "Queen of the West.

Immigration flowed more and more towards the West, and railways were constructed in every direction. Land near the lake borders was brought under cultivation, and the produce from it served to supply the country hitherto fed from the Erie Canal, Wagon and railway transportation sufficed to carry the grain to the districts which needed it.

Cincinnati was "blocked out by water from the Atlantic seaboard," and the war crippled her commerce with the South. Under these adverse influences she languished. And now, what can be done to revive her vanished glories? On this point Commander Maury is fertile in suggestions. We may enumerate the most important of them.

Cincinnati stands "at the gateway of the route which the competition of the Virginia water line will open between the West and he was to commence, though his style of disthe Atlantic seaboard." Complete that water line on a scale commensurate with its importance. Thus a commercial highway to the sea would be secured. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad would supplement the water line. With these two improvements, Cincinnati would "stand without a rival in the West for direct trade through the Chesapeake bay, between the heart of the Mississippi valley, and the whole of Western and Central Europe.

Such is the programme for the future which Commodore Maury has drawn up. How does it please the people of Cincinnati? Will their direct communication with Europe, goods from Paris or London would be shipped

FATHER HYACINTHE'S REVOLT. From the N. Y. Times.

The revolt of Father Hyacinthe against the authority of the Papal hierarchy, of which the cable brings us intelligence, is an event which will produce a profound sensation throughout the Church. He is the most eloquent preacher of the Latin Chusch heard in France since the death of Lacordaire. His conferences at Notre Dame were frequented by all that was most distinguished in Paris, and a larger audience than his voice could reach would be gathered an hour before course was rather more metaphysical than is common with speakers so renowned for eloquence. His defection from the Church will be classed, as to the gravity of its conse-quences, with that of Renan and of Lamennais. We trust it may not be that, like them, he has exchanged too much faith for too little. Father Hyacinthe is still in the prime of life and in the perfection of his faculties. The necessity of defending his course will doubtless render his name more familiar to the world than it would have been had he pursued the even tenor of his priestly ways. The step which Father Hyacinthe has taken In asserting the right of private judgment in matters of religion, invites a comparison with the renowned author of "Telemachus,"

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OLA	CHAL	ITIES.	÷

How to Hit 'Em.

If the Cuban fron-clad which was reported Martha's Vineyard ever reaches Cuban wate we may expect something quite as lively as th which occurred in Hampton Roads, when Robel ram astonished our "wooden walls" w such a punch in the ribs that it not only to their breath away, but never permitted it to restored. Hitting between wind and water i sort of warfare which at this juncture would of more service to Cuba than a dozen victor on land.

A Minister in Difficulty.

Grave charges have recently been made one of his parishioners against the Rev. En-Weavor, pastor of the African M. E. Church, Weaver, pastor of the African M. E. Churen, Catharine street, Newark. The complainant one Rachel Jennings, a widow twenty-five year of age, who, with her five children, resides Pacific street. According to her stateme before Justice Pierson, it appears that after cla meeting on the night of July 26, the clergym constituted has been and their set. meeting on the night of only 26, the clergym escorted her home, and that on his way he to serious liberties with her. She delayed maki the matter known until a few days ago, and wargant was issued for the accused's arre which was executed Saturday afternoon la He was taken before Judge Depue, who bail him in \$1000. him in \$1000.

The Only Survivor.

The Cape Ann Advertiser furnishes the p-ticulars of the wreck of the schooner He Eliza, of Rockport, and the escape of Char Jordan, the only survivor of a crew of twe men. The schooner was off Portland light wi the fury of the gale of the 8th burst upon h Captain Millet tried to run for Portland, but y too far East, and the schooner struck on trocks off Peak's Island. Her bow was knoch in, and five men killed at once, and the capt was killed at the helm. The survivors can at bits of the wreck and swam for the isla Jordan was fortunate enough to get hold of empty barrel, on which, after a terrible stragg he finally reached a ledge, and made his way the dark to a fisherman's hut, where he will kindly cared for. Mr. Jordan seems to carry charmed life. Once before he has been sh wrecked, and out of thirty men, alone escap and of eighty persons confined with him in Libby Prison he alone survived.

A New Torpedo.

A paper in Berlin mentious two torpedos vented by Captain Lupis, of the Austrian arm Speaking of the more important one, it says This torpedo is made of wrought iron, and i the form of a dolphin. One vertical and t horizontal projections, somewhat resemb fins, prevent it from rolling over, and prese fins, prevent it from rolling over, and presen it in a state of equilibrium. The head of the iron fish contains the bursting charge, white consists in the smaller pattern of forty pound and in the larger one of sixty pounds, of co-pressed gun-cotton. A large number of small movable iron plugs or bolts project from sides of the head, and as soon as one of the comes into collision with the enemy's vessel in driven in upon the izalition composition a driven in upon the ignition composition a fires the charge. The motion is produced b screw propeller at the tail of the fish, and driven by means of compressed air, working first starting with a power of from thirty thirty-five atmosphere. thirty-five atmospheres.

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