## 100 miles 100 miles 100 THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27. 1869.

# SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

## THE PRESIDENT'S OPINION OF MR. FISK

## From the N. Y. Herald,

We have the information from a special source at Washington that, on having his attention called in a recent conversation to the bold attempt of Fisk, Jr., on one of the Sound steamers last summer, to obtain from the President advance information of the financial policy of the Government, General Grant's reply was substantially this:-"I don't know but I should have been insulted had it come from any other but a person like Fisk; but, coming from a man so destitute of moral character, I didn't think it worth noticing." Now, taking this as the expressed opinion of General Grant, we are somewhat startled by it, because we know that he is careful in what he says touching the character of any man or any question; because we know that he has a remarkable perception of the peculiar qualities of men in distinguishing one man from another, and because we had supposed, as the world goes, that Mr. Fisk's moral character was all right even with the churchmen among the bulls and bears and lame ducks on 'Chauge. Nor do we calculate that General Grant refers to Mr. Fisk's opera bouffe arrangements, or anything of that sort; but that in the opinion given of the Eric financier the President simply means that as a speculator of the New England Puritan school of Barnum, Fisk, according to the rigid old fashioned Illinois standard of integrity, is "destitute of moral character"destitute in being, at all hazards, "on the make," and in acting upon the idea that the end justifies the means, and upon the doctrine that the morality of Yankee shrewdness is to be measured by its success in money making. But if Mr. Fisk is to be condemned upon these grounds, who among the gold gamblers and stock jobbers of Wall street will be able to stand? Shall he be made the scapegoat for the whole tribe? That is the question ?

# THE TRUE TEST.

From the N. Y. Times.

Increased efficiency in the collection of revenue, and rigorous economy in expenditures, were prominent features of the platform on which General Grant was elected. The Republican party pledged itself to promote these objects, and General Grant was chosen to accomplish them. How he has performed his duty? How has the party redeemed its promise?

The work of the first six months of the administration are known. They are not, indeed, the period by which the measures of any administration should be judged. At the outset of its career, there are obstacles to be overcome arising from the action or nonaction of its predecessor; there is an experience to be gained, and a start to be made under all the disadvantages which attend the inauguration of a new departmental regime. Notwitstanding these drawbacks, however, General Grant and the statesmen he has gathered about him have effected much. By imparting greater vigilance and fidelity to the collection of revenue, and by zealously sustaining the plan of Congress in the matter of retrenchment, they have in a single half year secured for the country a gain of fifty-six millions of dollars.

The aggregate increase of revenue falls little short of twenty millions, considerably more than four-fifths of which been derived from have internal -precisely those

doctor is rendered back to his dispensatory. | THE FINANCIAL POLICY-WHAT WILL | one squate on the damp door of his extempo-He resumes the pestle and the mute mortan again resounds, and rhubarb and aloe and gamboge, in concourse more or less fortuitous, assemble in pills or float in fluids till commerce dispenses them throughout the habitations of men. This employment is not so exciting nor quite so ornamental as that of making speeches in Congress and sitting wearly on committees, but it is far more useful to the human race. Did the doctor's ambition cloud his perception of the consequences of thus laying aside the apron of the apothecary for the toga of the legislator? Did ae adequately comprehend the constipation which would ensue: the epigastric qualms, the mesenteric agues, the lumbar pangs, the colics, which would set mankind howling, throughout the globe ? Probably not. He must have deemed the thirty years wherein he had enforced the brisk purgation of the peoples a regulatory discipline which would last them over one session of Congress at least. It is proper, however, to assure him that even so brief an absence from his usual function might have been attended with consequences of a costive character; which he would deplore, and for which his services to the State, however eminent, would be an inadequate recompense.

It is due, however, to the truth of history to state that the nominating convention did not reject the doctor because it was unwilling to withdraw him from his professional pur-suits. The constituency demurred. They were willing to take the doctor's pills and wear his plasters and peruse his cogent and unanswerable almanac. But they didn't want him to cobble their laws. A pamphlet has been sent to us which reviews, with temperance of phrase but severity of implication, the doctor's character, and estimates the validity of his pretensions. From it we gather that he is not a gun of great dimen-stons. He would not go off in Congress with a very loud report. The reviewer says that his faults are "the petty meannesses of a petty nature," and that they "create only derision and disgust." Although he is enormously rich, he has done nothing with his money more public spirited or benevolent than to invest it in the best securities he could find. He has endowed no school, no hospital, no charity of any kind; no scholarship in college or academy, no benefaction to church or library, attests his regard for learning or his devotion to religion. Like necessity, he is reputed to know no law, and the reviewer adds, with ominous reserve, that "the particular discussion of his character could not fail to be disagreeable," and he therefore foregoes it.

But a darker and more specific insinuation about the doctor was bruited abroad, and, if we may employ so rude a phrase, it cooked his goose effectually. We don't want to in-jure the sale of his chologogues and anthelmintics, and we repeat the imputation with pain; but the truth must be told. The doctor was accused of being a chief proprietor of the principal radical newspaper published in this city, and of being, of course, morally responsible for the injurious and dangerous inculcations of that journal. What there is in the conduct of the Tribun e which makes it so objectionable to Massachusetts Republicans we don't know. It merely rehearses the same foolish arguments and reiterates the same arid formulas which they employ upon the stump and exploit in lectures and air in Congress and Legislature; but the action of the convention, in thus contemptuously rejecting its chief proprietor, is conclusive of the estimation in which it is held. As soon as they found that the doctor was a stockholder of the turnip and strawberry organ, and the friend of Greeley, they threw him over at once: and it was proposed to incorporate with the platform a clause warning Republicans in good standing from taking any more of his pills. We are sorry for the doctor, and think he ought to sell out his newspaper stock and piously endeavor to recover his medicel standing. His political hopes are, of course, finally quenched. Nothing, therefore, remains to him except to infuse more drastic elements into his medicines and more benevolence into his private life. So shall he recover the goodwill of his fellowcitizens and patients and the approbation of his own conscience, and finally leave no prescription or recipe which, dying, he would

#### IT BE? From the Pittaburg Commercial

The heads of the several departments of the Government are understood to be engaged on the preliminary work of framing the annual reports. Certain parts of these the President will require a considerable time prior to the assembling of Congress to enable him to prepare his message. The greatest interest will centre on the finances; and it is fair to presume that President Grant and Secretary Boutwell are prepared to recommend a distinct policy for the future. What it will be in a general sense What it will be in a general sense the course pursued by Mr. Bontwell pretty distinctly indicates. The central idea will be the funding of the debt at a low rate of interest. To this there will be an obstacle at the threshold-the exchanging of six per cent, for four per cent, bonds, without compulsory legislation, which would be inconsistent with that perfect faith to which the Secretary and the administration hold and will under all circumstances hold. On this point it is reasonable to expect the Secretary will be prepared to make practical re-commendations to Congress. It is, as will at once be seen, one presenting great diffi-culties. Were our credit less firm and the future less certain, they might be considered somewhat less grave. They interfere with our assured financial strength. Holders of six per cent, bonds must be furnished with an inducement for surrendering those for others of a lower rate of interest. What will the Secretary recommend as such inducement? On this will depend largely the reduction of the taxes which the country is expecting, and which the administration feels confident, apparently, of accomplishing at the next session of Con-It is a problem of present difficulties, gress. and the solution which Mr. Boutwell will be prepared to recommend will cause his report to be waited for with an unusual degree of interest. In the estimation of some the question involves the revision of the tariff and the readjustment of duties purely on the revenue basis. To do this, and at the same time realize the expected reduction of taxes, to the extent of something like one hundred millions annually, will tax the statesmanship of the administration and Congress. Of course free trade must be wholly out of the question. Such a policy would necessitate direct taxation for the lost revenue, and the gold needed to meet the fixed wants of the Government. and to a very considerable degree dry up the sources of internal taxes. There must be a tariff-one which will afford a certain large revenue and preserve the energies of the country whereby internal taxation can be borne, to supply the balance necessary to meet all the obligations of the nation, which are fixed and inevitable. Will a purely revenue tariff do this? Must it not necessarily be protective, call it what you will? And will it not be to this complexion that Congress must come at last?

# GENERAL BUTTERFIELD.

The Investigation by Solicitor Banfield. A New York paper gives the following resume of an interview with General Butterfield:--Solicitor Banfield, of the Treasury Depart-ment, having been despatched from Washington to examine General Butterfield in relation to the charge that he was concerned with Gould, Fisk, and Corbin in the gold conspiracy, arrived in this city yesterday morning. At ten minutes after 10 o'clock, Mr. Bantield was at the Sub-Treasury to see General Butterfield. The Solicitor and the Assistant Treasurer were closeted a long time. Meantime, gentlemen well known on 'Change dropped into the Treasury building to learn what was going on. Two hours and a half elapsed, when Solicitor Banfield retired from General Butterfield's presence. As soon as Banfield had gone, a number of gentlemen were uskered into the General's

rized dwelling, I have been led to think that the backwoodsman must get a sweeter savor of self-reliance from the house his own hands have built than Bramante or Sansovino could ever give. Perhaps the fort is the best thing, for it calls out more masculine qualities and adds the cheer of battle with that dumb artillery which gives pain enough to test pluck without risk of serious hurt. Already, as I write, it is twenty-odd years ago. The balls fly thick and fast. The storm of nephews, his breast plastered with de-corations like another Radetsky's. How well I recall the indomitable good-humor under fire of him who fell in the front at Ball's Bluff. the silent pertinacity of the gentle scholar who got his last hurt at Fair Oaks, the ardor in the charge of the gallant gentleman who, with the death-wound in his side, headed his brigado at Cedar creek! How it all comes back, and they never come ! I cannot again be the Vau-ban of fortresses in the innocent snow, but I shall never see children moulding their clumsy giants in it without longing to help. It was a pretty fancy of the young Vermont sculptor to make his first essay in this evanescent material Was It a figure of youth, I wonder? Would it not be well if all artists could begin in stuff as perishable, to melt away when the sun of erity began to shine and leave nothing behind ut the gain of practised hands ? It is pleasant to fancy that Shakespeare served his appren ticeship at this trade, and owed to it that most pathetic of despairing wishes,-"Oh, that I were a mockery-king of snow,

Standing before the sun of Bolingbroke, To melt myself away in water-drops l' —Aflantic Almanac.

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sources which under Mr. Johnson's rule, were most neglected. On the other hand, the decrease in expenditures-army, navy, and civil service-approach very nearly thirty-seven millions-the exact gain being \$56,461,157, as compared with the transactions of Mr. Johnson's administration during the corresponding half of 1868.

And the good work goes on with an almost absolute certainty that the proportion of gain will hereafter be yet larger. The administration is doing its duty, and the country will reap the profit.

## CHANGE OF PUBLIC SENTIMENT IN ENGLAND.

From the N. Y. Herald.

By the Atlantic cable we have a condensed synopsis of the editorial remarks published by the leading journals of London in comment on the life and public services of the late Earl of Derby. The writers accord him all good qualities as a private gentleman and refined and polished scholar; but they step aside to condemn or repudiate his "impulsiveness" in politics, as well as to pro-claim that he lacked a "statesmanlike temperament" completely. Even his chivalrous British conservatism is contrasted, and in an unfavorable light for his memory, side by side with the radical democracy of Italy, and held forth as having been far inferior in fts patriotic expression to that which now animates the promoters of the Irish Church Disestablishment bill and such like advanced measures. It is alleged every day that "republics are ungrateful," but what will be said of the public men of Britain who write up the monarchy to-day in that country? We suspect, however, that there is a good deal of political party tactic manceuvre in all this, and that it is used by the old school Tories of England with the view of running the present Earl of Derby, with his workingmen and trades unionists friends, off the track in the contest for the leading prize in the new field of English politics.

## AYER. From the N. Y. World.

"Doctor" Ayer is a medicine man of renown, who resides in the Seventh Congressional district of Massachusetts. He has re-cently been moved by a laudable ambition to represent that bean-eating constituency in Congress. The nominating convention recently met at Concord, and with much discord flung the doctor overboard. They ap-pointed as their standard-bearer George M. Brooks, who thus becomes one of the running brooks in which, according to the dramatist, books are sometimes discerned as sermons are in stones and milk in cocoauuts. Why the convention should have rejected the doctor does not appear. Whatever the abilities or the celerity of the latter, they can scarcely outweigh the claims of the man who has unlocked the bowels of mankind, from the Arctic circle to Patagonia. He has purged a hundred peoples. Is it strange that he should now desire to "purge the general weal?" He has exasperated the iliac ducts of kings, the pancreatic regions of chancellors, the biliary receptacles of statesmen, and it certainly is not surprising that, having ex-hausted the possibilities of the pharmaco-posia, he should now desire to dispense moral and political purgatives on a wider scale.

But fate and the convention say no. The

THE CRISIS IN FRANCE. Frem the N. Y. Sun.

wish to blot.

If revolutions could be made to order, and delivered on a day appointed in advance, we ought to have heard before this that Louis Napoleon has been driven from the throne of France, and either that an Orleanist or a Bourbon king has succeeded him, or that the French Republic has been proclaimed anew Yesterday was the last day of the period of six months since the dissolution of the old Legislature within which, according to the French Constitution, the newly-elected Legislature must be called together. The Emperor, disregarding the requirement, has fixed the 29th of November as the day of meeting. He is forearmed as well as forewarned, and if he is worsted in the encounter, it will be because his old ability has deserted him.

Still, it is only too evident that France is in a condition extremely unfavorable to the future prospects of the reigning monarch The workingmen are excited to an alarming degree; half Paris is on a strike; formidable riots have occurred within a few weeks at various places; and the liberty newly granted to the press has been availed of to give expression to the most bitter hatred of the Emperor and ardent wishes for the restoration of the republic. The emissaries of the Duke of Orleans are as busy as the radical demagogues in fanning these sparks into flames, and though they may be arrested and imprisoned, that will not extinguish the disaffection. The Emperor must be at his wit's end to know what to do.

To us Americans the moral of this crisis in France is obvious. It is that no government is so stable as that which the people are allowed by law to make for themselves. It is not questioned that Louis Napoleon is as able and patriotic a ruler as any whom the suffrages of French voters would be likely to elect. He has conducted the affairs of the nation, as Presidant and Emperor, with consummate skill for more than twenty years. Internally the country has prospered in manufactures, commerce, and the accumula-tion of wealth. Externally, she is feared and respected as much, if not more, than in the proudest days of her past history. The Italian campaign of 1859 was worthy of Julius Casar; while the improvements of the city of Paris recall the achievements of Augustus. Yet in spite of all this, the French people are restless and dissatisfied, because they are denied that personal liberty and share in the affairs of State so dear to every patriotic citizen. If they knew that they could get rid of their Emperor whenever they pleased, they would probably keep him in office till he died; but the more he tries to be independent of their will, the more determined they will be on effecting his downfall.

resence, among whom was Augustus Schell These gentlemen collectively had a confidential interview with the Assistant Treasurer. The door of the General's room remained closed a long time, and was utterly impassable to a half dozen or more small fry who were seeking adnission to the presence.

When the door was opened, and the crowd had gone, General Butterfield was left standing in the middle of the floor "uncoverse," in a military point of view. The reporter advanced cautiously, bowing. The General was distant and studiously reserved, "Sit down, sir," he said, pointing to a seat, "and I will be at leisure in a moment." He then stopped back to the table and touched a silve bell, which summoned a policeman to amuse the ----'s commissioner.

General Butterfield here wrote a despatch informing the Secretary of the Treasury that he could not get such an investigation as he desired while holding a civil office, and that, therefore,

he had determined to resign. The following conversation then took place:-The General-I have no vacancies.

The General-What do you wish? Reporter-I have come to learn the facts in

elation to Mr. Banfield's interview with you bts morning

The General-You must see Mr. Banfield, You an tell your half million of readers from me that I have resigned pending an investigation, and that I hope the — will, as an honest jour-oal, not wishing to prejudge the case, leave me done until the investigation has been made, and report has been submitted.

'I have another question, General," said the porter. "I would like to know if I could get he names of your surctice?

"What do you want with them?" he inquired. "To publish them." "They are C. K. Garrison, S. G. Wheeler, W. G. Fargo, and J. U. B. Davidson."

'May I know the amount ?"

"Eight hundred thousand dollars."

It was not until late in the afternoon that eneral Butterfield left the Treasury building. On going out of it he met a friend on the steps, to whom he said he had just finished a long etter to the Secretary of the Treasury. The name of General Butterfield's successor

has not been made known.

After leaving the Sub-Treasury, Solicitor Ban field went to the Astor House. It was under-stood that General Butterfield resigned with the object of furthering the investigation into the charges made against him. If the Sub-Treasury were placed in the hands of another party, the records and books could be freely examined The Solicitor conversed with several friends and it was apparent from what he said that the Government did not feel disposed to press an investigation while General Butterfield was a office.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Banfield refused to see many gentle-men who called upon him. During the after-noon he wrote a long letter to Secretary Boutwell

#### Snow Art and Architecture. BY JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

The damper snow tempts the amateur archit tect and sculptor. His Pentelleus has been brought to his very door, and if there are boys to be had (whose company beats all other recipes for prolonging life), a middle-aged Master o the Works will knock the years off his account and make the family Bible seem a dealer in and make the family fible seem a dealer in foolish fables, by a few hours given heartily to this business. First comes the Sisyphean toll of rolling the clammy balls till they refuse to budge farther. Then, if you would play the statuary, they are piled one upon the other to the proper height; or if your aim be masonry, whether of house or fort, they must be squared and beaten solid with the showel. The material is catable of yeary perity effects and your your is capable of very pretty effects, and your young companions meanwhile are unconsciously learn r lessons in mosthetics.

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T MINING	and a second sec	N. E Corner FOURTH and RACE Sta.
E ASTON & MCMAHON, BERTFING AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS No. 2 COENTIES SLIP, New York, No. 18 SOUTH WHARVES, Philadelphia	CITY WARRANTS	WHOLESALE DRUCCISTS,
E ASSTITUTE AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS No. 2 COENTIES SLIP, New York. No. 18 SOUTH WHARVES, Philadelphia. No. 45 W. PRATT Street, Baltimore. We are prepared to ship every description of Freight to Philadelphia, New York, Wilmington, and intermediate points with promptness and despatch. Ganal Bosts and Steam-tage furnished at the hortest notice.	BOUGHT AND SOLD.	White Lead and Golored-Paints, Putty
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CANTER SALL DECK AND CANTER		a second s
of all numbers and brands. Tent, Awning, Trunk,	NO 20 SOUTH THIRD STREET.	FRENCH ZING PAINTS
COTTON SAIL DUCK AND CANVAS, of all numbers and brands. Tent, Awning, Trunk, and Wagen-cover Duck. Also, Paper Manufacturers Drier Falts, from thirty to seventy-six inches wide, Patting, Buting, Sail Twine, etc. JOHN W. EVERMAN, 255 = 103 OHUROH Street (City Stored)	NO. 20 SOUTH THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA	Desiers and community supplied at lowest prices for cash. 1941