# THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1869.

## SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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Editorial Opinious of the Leading Journals Upon Carreat Topics -- Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

THE DOMINION OF CONVERTS. From the Pall Mall Gazette.

There are other accidents of birth upon which the average English child may congratulate himself beyond that for which the hymns which he learns make him grateful. If he is fortunate in not being born a negro, he may be thankful that in the great majority of cases he is not born a Roman Catholic. It is difficult to concerve acuter moral grievances than those under which the English Roman Catholics who have always been Roman Catholics are now suffering. In all probability, if allowance be made for the difference of period, Lord Macaulay's description of the Roman Catholic of James II's day is in a great degree applicable to the true English Romanist of our own. In his tastes and in his social creed he may be believed to be not less but more of an Englishman than his neighbors, and we may even suspect that he has an equal natural affinity for the commonplaces which are dear to them. The declarations published by the Roman Catholic peers and commoners during the struggle for emancipation are very curious reading, that there will be a long succession of convert and show that the gentlemen who signed archbishops and bishops. them had gone very far in accepting the principal articles of Revo-lution faith. In those days the favorite argument of their advocates was that James the Second was a martyr to the cause of toleration, and it was often asked whether men who held the same doctrines with the barons of Runnymede must necessarily be among the deadly enemies of freedom. But now the Papal Syllabus pronounces it a capital error to hold that even immigrants into a Catholic country ought to be allowed freedom of worship; and, as for Magna Charta, it is incontestable that a Pope cursed all who had art or part in it, and all Popes are about to be declared infallible by the (Ecumenical Council. The truth is that the influences which operate on the Roman Catholic Church of the Continent are necessarily very feebly felt by the English Roman Catholic body. It is easy to understand why the privileged classes of continental countries should suppose that they gain strength by allying themselves with a power which tries to be, and to a great extent is, the centre of conservative resistance all over the world. But the English Roman Catholics have nothing whatever to gain by denationalizing themselves. Ultramontanism for them means a closer connection with Irish agrarian discontent; and this is hardly a natural alliance for a well-to-do minority consisting chiefly of landowners.

One misfortune which has overtaken this body of noblemen and gentlemen is probably the heaviest which can happen to men of taste and sense. They have fallen under the dominion of converts. Some fifteen or twenty years ago the Protestant world was agitated by the preaching of a few Roman Catholic priests who had deserted their Church: and it is instructive to call to mind its characteristics. The hearer of Father Achilli or Father Gavazzi learned that the Pope was a marvel of demonfacal cruelty, that convents were sinks of immorality, and that the Church of Rome was in league with every form of oppression which weighs upon the human race. Of Protestantism he heard that the little happiness which existed in the world was traceable to it, and that not a suspicion rested on the character or motives of its founders. In other words, he listened to some statements which in a general way were true, to some wild exagggerations, and to some rather impudent falsehoods. Now it would be very unjust to the converts who are riding roughshod over the English Roman Catholics to say that they are men of such equivocal character as were some of the persons who joined the Protestant camp from Romanism, but it is undeniable that there is a strong generic likeness between the two sets of apostates; and, indeed, we are not sure that the advantage is not in some respects with the Italians. Some of them had really done and suffered much, and there was an occasional manliness and force in their language which favorably contrast with the effeminate shrieking of men who have sedulously rid themselves of every fragment of intellectual virility. If, again, there is a pin to choose between the statement that every convent is a brothel, and the statement that modern civilization is founded on divorce, we think that the latter is the most discreditable of the two to the author; it is equally false and malignant with the other in point of intention, and, besides that, it is nonsensical. The Greeks observed common qualities in political refugees of all classes which led them to make it an adage led them to make it an adage that exiles ought never to be trusted; just in to make it an adage the same way religious refugees of all sorts have a great deal in common. There is in all the same virulent hatred of the sect which they have left and the same extravagant admiration and exaltation of the most doubtful pretensions of the sect which they have joined. Among those who profess a faith, and especially an old faith, simply because they were born to it, there will always be many to whom these characteristics are in the highest degree offensive. Some things in their own creed they do not greatly care to have dwelt upon; some things in rival creeds they do not altogether like to have attacked. The easy-going Anglican saves himself from such annoyances by keeping as far away as possible from the hall or chapel in which the convert is lecturing; but for the old-fashioned English Roman Catholic there is no such ascape. The convert is an archbishop, and his utterances are pastorals; it would be disloyalty even to complain of either. All English converts to Roman Catholicism have not been of the exact type of Dr. Manning, but it seems certain that all future converts will more or less belong to it; and, at all events, it is only such converts that the Holy See delights to honor. For adherents of the stamp of the eccentric Mr. Ffoulkes the Church has had no room since the Reformation, and it is only wonderful that he should have thought otherwise. But, beyond this, it is becoming clear that there will shortly be no place even for converts like Dr. Newman. We do not profess to understand accurately what is implied in the difference between making Dr. Manning an archbishop and offering to Dr. Newman the post of Theologian to the Council; but it may be suspected that the latter distinction carries with it the privilege of giving opinions which nobody is obliged to accept, and in point of fact it is clear that the advisers of the Pope are bent on taking away a certain liberty to speculate about the actual teaching of the Church which has hitherto been permitted to Roman Catholics in consideration of soundness on the points of difference between their own communion and others. The movement which the Papal poterie is urging on is essentially a revolt against learning, the learning of Dollinger and writers of his order. The men who have caused the council to be summoned are im-

proof of a particular doctrine to depend on the researches of canonists and ecclesiastical historians, even though their orthodoxy should be unimpeachable. Like Lord Shaftesbury, they complain of the "tyranny of professors," and they seek to close all controversy by proclaiming the infallibility of the Pope, just as the evangelical leader proposed to end it by affirming the infallibility of the authorized version of the Bible. The man of erndition who is guided by the standards in use among the learned, the reasoner who insists on using his faculties, are not therefore likely hereafter to find refuge in the Roman Church, even though some natural perversity should incline them towards it. There will only remain, we trust we may say it without disrespect, the gushing and shrieking convert. The chances, too, are that he will be the most extreme and therefore the most offensive of the kind, since, owing to the freedom which controversialists of a very different order have established within the pale of the Church of England, there turn out to be ample opportunities in it for indulging a taste for oolish paradox and silly ceremonialism without openly deserting it. The future convert to Romanism is but too likely to be even an exaggeration of Archbishop Manning or Father Faber, and, as his extravagances are evidently those for which the Papal Court is feeling the strongest inclination, it is likely

### EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYES-IN CITY AND COUNTRY.

#### From the N. Y. Tribune.

One of the newest of our city institutions s proving to be one of the worthiest, already realizing a degree of success that may well encourage other similar efforts in large cities for promoting the public welfare in town and country. The "Free Labor Bureau," in the first six months of its existence, has demonstrated what may be done by well-directed effort in bringing together employers and employes on terms mutually advantageous-providing situations for the destitute, and preventing or relieving much distress-thus aiding to solve one of the most important problems of society, especially in large cities.

Multitudes on both sides of the industrial question-persons wanting "help," and others needing employment-have now at last an institution where their respective necessities can be answered successfully within its limited sphere. The matter is worthy of special attention by all who stand in either relation, in city and country; for the dearth of "help" in the rural districts renders doubly important an institution that enables thousands of our country friends to secure adequate assistance from the superabundant population of the cities-from other large cities as well as from New York, as it cannot be doubted that other cities will profit by our example in establishing this important bureau.

Editors through the land, especially in the Western regions, where labor is most wanted, may benefit their readers by turning their attention toward a responsible public institution like this in New York, where thousands may be found who will gladly take situations in regions where they can enjoy more comfort, with prospect of greater worldly prosperity than usually follows employment in large cities. In this way a large amount of inconvenience and distress may be prevented or remodied, and all parties (employers and employes, and the public generally), be greatly benefited.

The "Free Labor Bureau" is, as yet, very little known even in this city, for it has not been advertised as it should be to produce the full results that it is capable of effecting. A few facts respecting its first few months may at least faintly indicate the great benefits it can render when its character is widely known in country as well as city. Personal examination of the institution and its records cheers us in saying a few words about what has been already accomplished. In the six months since its organization-from June 15 to December 15-it has supplied the wants of about twenty-eight thousand persons, by furnishing over fourteen thousand (14,023) persons with employment, and of course about an equal number of employers with "help." About one-fourth of the persons furnished with situations are males, and the remainder women and girls. In addition to the (about) twenty-eight thousand employers and employes thus supplied as they desired, there are about seven thousand applicants on the books for help and for employment-among which number the employers are nearly sixteen hundred more numerous than the persons seeking places. Here then is a total of more than thirty thousand persons brought together as employers and employes during the brief career and with the limited means of this single bureau. Let the advantages of this bureau be fully understood through the country as well as in the city, and the increased applications will soon form an aggregate which will render even that thirty thousand a comparatively small number. It is an encouraging sign, at this early stage of the enterprise, that about one-third of the employes were provided with situations in the country. The way that employers and employes are brought together aids greatly in satisfying both parties. The Legislature having provided \$10,000 towards paying the expenses of "the experiment," as it was considered, the applicants have nothing to pay-so that bribery and collusion, so frequently charged against some of the ordinary intelligence offices, find no field for operations here. The scrutiny of character contributes largely to the gratifying results. Testimonials or references are required, so that unworthy employers, especially in the case of females, cannot make this bureau a convenience in getting recruits for unworthy purposes. Applicants for places are, of course, required to furnish "characters" or "recommendations." All these testimonials, on both sides, are referred to in connection with the names in appropriate registers: besides which, there is another record, a "Black Book," wherein are entered the names of employers and employes who may be found unworthy of confidence. Gambling and other "houses" of unpleasant description are noted accordingly, as soon as their characters are ascertainedfor "help" is not sent to suspicious placeswhile unworthy employes are duly "marked" in the same "Black Book" with the offenses for which they were discharged. The manner in which all "registered" persons are treated inspires respect for the institution among employers and employes, as it must also among all visitors. Excellent order is preserved in every respect, and it is a com-fort to find that the legislative provision made for the bureau and the judicious arrangements made by the commission, of which General Bowen is President, are so faithfully administered by the indefatigable Superin-tendent, Mr. G. M. Losee, about whom it is simple justice to say that it would be difficult to find a better man for a position requiring such peculiar characteristics in an enterprise so important to the public welfare.

patient of a state of things which allows the | calling at the "Free Labor Bureau"-the term "free" having reference to the fact that its services cost nothing to applicants. The location is pleasant and convenient of access -in the Plimpton Building, on Ninth street, between Second and Third avenues, near the Cooper Institute, Bible House, Historical Society, and other prominent institutions Applications from the country begin to pour in, and the demand from the West will doubtless be very great as soon as people know how to secure "help" from this valuable institution-about all which matters Mr. Losee will give full information to persons who write or call upon him. It is worthy of particular notice that about one-third of all the applicants for employment have already been furnished with situations in the country-a very encouraging indication of what may be done, by increased effort in this and other cities, for relieving multitudes who suffer in large towns for want of the employment which the country readily affords.

### WASHINGTON AND ITS PROPOSED IN-TERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

From the N. Y. Times.

Our Washington correspondent communi cates the intelligence that the people of tha city are "getting pretty thoroughly aroused on the subject of the International Exhibi tion. This is well; and if the said people will only keep on getting pretty thoroughly aroused until 1872, for which year the exhibition in question is fixed, they may very likely get worked up to a pitch of positive enthusiasm. But, in sober truth, we are fain to confess that thus far they have moved, not forward, on to the Exhibition, but crab-like, sideways, upon their old stand-by, Congress. As some of Dickens' characters are employed chiefly in demonstrating "How Not to Do It." so some of the Washingtonians have been hitherto showing "How Not to Have It." The way in which the proposed enterprise ought not to be held, is through drafts on the National Treasury. If resolutions like those coolly calling on Congress to appropriate several millions to the use and behoof of Washington are persisted in, it will also be demonstrated "Where not to have it." We say "to the use and behoof of Wash-

ington.' because civic aggrandizement appears to be the chief aim of the new project The people of the country have lately been talking (in lack of other things to talk about) of removing the national capital to some more geographically central point. All sorts of have joined in the cry-Cincinnati and St. Louis, Chicago and Cheyenne. A score of places compete for the honor. But, though all the talk has thus far come to nothing, the permanent residents of the District of Columbia are naturally alarmed at the prospect of removal. Suppose the "Star of Empire' should accept Bishop Berkeley's suggestions, and "westward take its way"-what darkness would follow for Washington! Suppose the 'tide of political power" should carry the capital with it to the Mississippi valley-what would become of Washington, thus left high and dry?

Moved by these gloomy thoughts, the people of Washington seem to have determined to omploy Mrs. Chick's specific, and "make an effort;" and the effort has been in the direction of an International Exhibition. An International Exhibition, approved and supported by Congress, would help Washington amazingly, it is thought. Now, Washington, in any case, is hardly the place for a great gathering of nations. It has long enjoyed a reputation for discomfort which would do anything but attract strangers. The almost supernatural acuteness of some of its public officers and servants in entrapping the unwary traveller is of world-wide renown. Wo certainly do not object to the facts in question. It is but a part of the year that Washington finds itself full, and accordingly the business of the twelvemonth is naturally concentrated. But the city does not have the means of accommodating such a throng of peeple as an International Exhibition brings together whenever it is a success. Additional means could not be provided without incurring such an expense as would have to be saddled solely on the visitors in enormous charges. The whole thing would result in discomfort, and probably in disgrace. We do not object to any ordinary schemes for improving Washington; but such an extraordinary scheme as this is beyond approval. On the other hand, what is to be seen in Washington ? Our correspondent says "Congress will be in session, and will be an interesting study to all foreigners." But we put the question to Congressmen, that they may tell us frankly, each about the other, whether that is the sort of spectacle calculated to be edifying to foreigners, or improving to our own people. No, we cannot think well of this new project for "improving Washington" alike at national and international expense. "The movement for an International Exhibition," says our correspondent, "is a well-meant effort of the people here to aid in removing the public reproach from Washington." Perhaps if it should "take any shape but that" the country might consent to carry it out. In fine, if the vast public spirit and civic enterprise about which we are now hearing so much in Washington shall take the practical form of ample subscriptions to an International Exposition, it will be very well for the city. But if it only results in besieging Congress, with renewed energy and unanimity, for large appropriations, it ought to be, and probably will ke, love's labor lost.

pulpit that Stanton's manner was so insulting that no man could hold intercourse with him and retain his self-respect-if this is doing full justice to Washington? Are they satisfied to read in all future radical histories of America that the Father of his Country was an early suggestion of Lincoln, a faint foreshadowing of Stanton? And, if not, will they not consent to desist from the practice of sullying the splendor of his noble name by striving to appropriate it for the benefit of every prominent deceased leader of their party Or, if they must seek among the names of

a past generation for titles to conferupon their radical idols of this, they might at least be content to choose from among names less sacred than that of Washington. There is Arnold, who, in his later years, was certainly trooly loil; there is Conway, who intrigued against the commander-in-chief just as some well-known radicals intrigued against McClellan at a later day; and there is Ethan Allen, who was as rough and full of strange oaths as Stanton himself. Let our radical praisers of the dead search for parallels among these congenial spirits of the Revolution. They will find them amply suited to their purpose, and they can thus respect at once the truth of history and the reputation of Washington.

SIDNEY WEBSTER AND HAMILTON FISH-THE SPANISH CONQUEST OF THE UNITED STATES.

From the N. Y. Sun.

Mr. Sidney Webster 1s a gentleman who understands how to do things. He seems to have possessed a natural aptitude for statecraft; and the faculty has been long and successfully cultivated. Soon after completing his collegiate and legal education in New Hampshire, he went to Washington as the Private Secretary of Franklin Pierce, with whom he remained until the end of Mr. Pierce's term. He soon came to be recognized outside as a power inside of the White House. If parties were anxious to get a difficult measure through, and the sanction of the Executive was requisite, it was a fact that seemed to be instinctively smelt out, that "Sid Webster," as he was familiarly called, was the man to do it.

Some time after the retirement of General Pierce, Mr. Webster came to this city to practise law, and married a daughter of the Hon. Hamilton Fish, a beautiful and highly accomplished young lady. Mr. Fish at that time, although he had been much in public life, seemed of all men the least likely ever to be anything more, politically. But as it is sometimes said of lucky business men that everything they touch turns to gold, so a mysterious good fortune seems to wait upon the most unpromising political ventures of Mr. Webster. Throughout the war it was generally supposed that his sympathies were rather Southern than Northern. He was one of the gentlemen so often seen about the New York Hotel: and there was a strong impression that a Confederate atmosphere surrounded that locality. His warm friendship for Mr. Pierce-who was a sympathizer with the Rebellion-remained unbroken; and Mr. Pierce bequeathed to him some token of regard by his last will and testament.

General Grant was elected President, and he adopted a new rule for the selection of his Cabinet. Tried by the recognized touchstone of merit—success—Grant had proved himself a great General. He had had scarcely any experience in civil affairs; was rather an ignorant man for a West Point graduate; and was singularly wanting in that intuitive sense of propriety which had prevented al former Fresidents from incurring so muc

of Stanton. We ask Mr. Beecher, or Dr. | the reception of large sums; and his father-Bellows-who alleged last Sunday in his in-law, Hamilton Fish, was Secretary of State at Washington. It required but a very simple process of reasoning, under these circumstances, to lead to the special employment of Mr. Sidney Webster as leading counsel for the Spanish Government in this country

We have no disposition to be unjust to Mr. Webster. In whatever he has done, he certainly has kept within the limits of the duties of counsel, as defined by Lord Brougham. That great advocate, in his celebrated defense of Queen Caroline, said: -"An advocate, by the sacred duty which he owes his client, knows, in the discharge of that office, but one person in the world-that client and none other. To save that client by all expedient means-to protect that client at all hazards and costs to all others, and among others to himself-is the highest and most unquestioned of his duties; and he must not regard the alarm, the suffering, the torment, the destruction which he may bring upon any other. Nay, separating even the duties of a patriot from those of an advocate, and casting them, if need be, to the wind, he must go on, reckless of the consequences, if his fate it should unhappily be to involve his country in confusion for his client's protection." We once heard the late Daniel Webster ex-

press in decided terms his dissent from this loctrine of Lord Brougham's but this is a free country, and it may be that one Webster thinketh differently from another Webster. And in regard to Mr. Fish we have as little

lisposition to do the slightest injustice. We do not suspect that he deliberately weighed out so many pieces of silver against so many ounces of blood. We do not even suppose for a moment that Mr. Fish could be approached by any offer of money; nor, more, that he would intentionally or knowingly allow the circumstance that his son-in-law has been retained by the Spanish Government to influence his foreign policy.

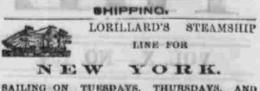
But is Mr. Fish certain that he is not, unconsciously to himself, influenced by the heavy retainer paid to Mr. Webster? Is Congress certain that the foreign policy of the State Department is wholly uninfluenced by the Spanish gold paid to and received by Sidney Webster?

Can any man who has faith in human nature say that Mr. Fish's position is one in which it is safe and prudent for a Secretary of State to stand? Would John Quincy Adams, or Andrew Jackson, or Caleb Cush ing ever have allowed such a shadow, such a doubt, or such a question even, to rest upon his name?

The New York Times-just as the Spanish gunboats leave on their mission of slaughter, and to strangle the cause of infant freedom in Cuba-publishes an account of a magnificent dinner party at Secretary Fish's, with the announcement that Mrs. Fish received in a stately manner. Stately means state-like. Now we do not object that the Fishes are state-like, but that the State is becoming Fish-like and Sidney Webster-like in its forign policy, and that Sidney Webster savors all over of Spanish gold, the price of patriot blood and of Cuban freedom.

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JUSTICE TO WASHINGTON. From the N. Y. World.

Whenever an eminent radical dies, we are immediately informed by his partisan admirers that the dead man was a second Washington. So many departed radicals have received this post-mortem brevet that we are forced to one of two conclusions: either the Father of his Country possessed a marvellous variety of contradictory qualities, or the complimentary comparison is as meaningless as the cheap brevets so freely distributed by Congress after the close of the war. Mr. Lincoln was a second Washington, if we may believe his unreserved admirers. Are we, then, justified in believing that Washington had a fondness for sitting with his feet elevated upon the Presidential table, and for illustrating his diplomatic views with little stories of a disproportionate breadth? So, too, Mr. Stanton was a second Washington. This is reliable, for the statement is made by no less an authority than that eminent pillar divorced that of the divine, sanctuary and woman's best companion, Henry Ward Beecher. Washington then was, of course, profane, boisterous, and insulting towards everyone with whom he came in contact. Now, we are rather inclined to disbelieve this. Not that we desire to speak ill of Mr. Stanton now that he is dead, but because we object to defaming the character of George Washington, who is certainly quite as dead as the late War Secretary. If Stanton so closely re-sembled Washington that the former can be called a second edition of the latter, it logically follows that Washington must have | was a practising lawyer in New York, open been an early edition, an avatar so to speak, | for the reception of fees, not diffident about

the appearance of evil in regard to mak political appointments for pay. Gene Grant made up his mind to select his Cabi from the list of those who had given l money. Of course there had to be one exc tion to this; General Rawlins, whose br had guided him through his military os paions, had to be retained. But for Secretar the Navy the President selected Mr. Borie. largest pecuniary benefactor out of ) York; for Secretary of the Treasury he lected Mr. Stewart, his largest pecuni benefactor; and when Mr. Stewart was for to be ineligible he selected another N Yorker, who had given him one thousa dollars, for Secretary of State; and that Hamilton Fish. Whoever, with all the fa before him, will undertake to say that Gene Grant was not influenced and governed making appointments to high offices of s by considerations of pecuniary presents himself, is simply incapable of weighing dence, and is incompetent to perform duty of a juryman in a case involving dollars. It was an unprecedented, a corrupt, an

infamous system. No one step has ever b publicly taken more calculated to demora our Government." It was an open and sha less proclamation, a public advertiseme that the administration was to be venal, rupt, and rotten from the start and at core. One act of receiving a large sun money, and then appointing the giver thigh office-one such act, of which Gen Grant has done so many openly and publ-one such act, we say, if done privately afterward proved, would have impeached President that ever lived. It would have peached George Washington, and it we have convicted Andrew Johnson. No s pecuniary stain rests upon any other Pr dent. Low as James Buchanan sank in scales of wisdom, if not of patriotism, never took bribes.

This terrible crime of General Grant's overlooked at the time, because the g heart of the people was warm and gus with gratitude towards him for their salva in arms, and their eyes were temporarily zled by his military glory. But the great will remain a stain on his name, as the ceptance of bribes affixed eternal dishond the name of Lord Bacon.

At the time of General Grant's inaug tion, the revolution in Cuba had develo such strength as to indicate that its suc was highly probable. It seems to be e blished by sufficient evidence that nearly entire native population of the island wer favor of throwing off the Spanish yoke. was natural, the American people syn thized warmly with the Cubans, contigu to our shores, in their efforts to free th selves from a foreign dominion. The Span Government, keenly alive to the situatio affairs, perceived that the outbreak of feeling, which was rapidly rising in t United States, must be checked, or was likely to take the shape of material aid to Cuba. They saw that money had been potent in the appointment of Grant's Cabinet; and they saw that the American Senate, faithless to its traditions of purity, had confirmed the nominations which the President had made in reciprocation of presents. Money, then, it was plain was the agency by which President Grant's foreign policy could probably be influenced for fils home appointments had been con-trolled by it. The shrewd Sidney Webster

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