

Evening Telegraph

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AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH BUILDING, NO. 108 S. THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1869.

THE LEGISLATIVE JOBS OF 1870.

As the people of Philadelphia have re-elected a number of the members of the last Legislature who were distinguished for their skill in earning divines, and their adroitness in disposing of public questions to their best pecuniary advantage, these worthies will no doubt feel fully justified in making bolder and more desperate strides for plunder at the approaching session of 1870 than at any former period. They can, indeed, scarcely be blamed for adopting this profitable policy. It is now a well-attested fact that disregard of the interests of constituents and eagerness to earn bribes are not, practically, deemed disqualifications for legislative positions. Nominating conventions and voters have ceased to ask or to care whether applicants for Harrisburg honors are honest, and since they have nothing to fear from their over-indulgent supporters, they can devote themselves without disguise or reserve to the one great object of making money by the exercise of their official powers. They will be open for all manner of propositions from all quarters, and ready to sell out anything in the shape of votes, laws, and charters to anybody that is able to pay for their sweet voices. Let speculators, corporations, avaricious officeholders who seek an increase of fees which are already exorbitant, and cheaters of industry of every grade, put their wits to work to devise plans whereby laws of Pennsylvania can be framed to enrich the few at the expense of the many. No matter how unjust or outrageous may be the nature of their schemes, they will find earnest supporters among the re-elected members, provided always they are sufficiently comprehensive to afford a handsome margin for a corruption fund. The people have decreed that complicity in such plots is no barrier to re-election, and since they are willing to be sold out over and over again, why should not their chosen favorites make the most of the opportunities which have been so freely granted? The control of the State funds will of course continue to be a marketable commodity, and the only favor we have to ask of the members is to see that they are sure of their pay, this time, before they disapprove of it. There is a project on foot to increase the pay of all the Representatives and Senators; this, too, should be adopted at the earliest possible moment. While they are making the increase let them not stop at trifles. In old-fashioned times far better men were content with three dollars per diem—their present pay is nearer ten—but let them not think of remaining content with such a paltry sum. Even twenty would not be sufficient. Why not run it up to fifty, or make it even figures, and call it a hundred dollars per day at once? As the people are anxious to be floored, their favorites should be ready to accommodate them to the top of their bent. Let them act on the magnanimous principle that all that they fail to make or steal now will only serve to enrich their successors, and sternly resolve to neglect no available opportunity for personal aggrandizement. There is a rumor that a grand scheme is on foot to involve the Commonwealth in an internal improvement project which will entail a large expenditure. This will of course not be neglected. Fortunes have been made before out of appropriations for similar objects, and why not again? Let millions be voted for the nominal object of deepening and widening canals, but with the distinct understanding that half of the money thus disposed of is to go into the pockets of the legislators. A better excuse for enriching plundering representatives could not well be devised, and they should make the most of it. The Metropolitan Police bill may also prove a good thing. The Democrats are raising a respectable corruption fund to bribe Republicans to oppose it, and this is one promising source of prospective profits. But if our city members can secure the passage of a law that will ensure the appointment of their friends upon the new force, and thus ensure their re-nomination and re-election until they are fairly gorged with the spoils of office, they can afford to spurn the Democratic bribes, and do even better by rejecting than by accepting them. Meanwhile, measures for the general welfare of the city and State will continue to be neglected. It would be folly to expect a bribe for the simple discharge of a duty, and our members cannot be expected to waste the precious moments during which currency could be earned by the endorsement of schemes of private or public robbery, in considering useful laws. The people did not send them to Harrisburg for that purpose. They are commissioned as pet plunderers, and they will best confirm and strengthen their present popularity by plundering on a grand scale at the coming session of 1870. They have only to guard against one thing—they must not come back poor. Let them increase taxation, sell out everything salable, and pile outrage on outrage, if it will, but let them put money—plenty of it—in their purses, and next fall they will be re-elected by perfectly astounding majorities.

MRS. STOWES DEFENSE.

It was hoped by Mrs. Stowe's best friends, after the emphatic and unanimous condemnation of her article in the Atlantic Monthly of September last, entitled "The True Story of Lord Byron," and the conclusive proofs that were brought forward of the groundlessness of her slanders on the dead poet and his sister, that she would either have the grace to maintain silence on the subject forever after, or else present such an apology as would satisfy outraged public opinion and convince the world that her original publication was merely a grave error of judgment and not a piece of malicious mischief. A fondness for apologizing, however, is not a Beecher trait, but a love for notoriety at any cost is; and yet Mrs. Stowe might have taken a hint from her brother, the Rev. Mr. Beecher, who managed lately to make himself a party to a very scandalous transaction, and who found it expedient to pay some deference to outraged public opinion by making an apology and confessing his error. But women are proverbially more obstinate than men, especially when it comes to acknowledging themselves in the wrong, and that a Beecher woman should do anything of the kind is not within the limits of probability. Mrs. Stowe, therefore, is about to come before the world with a book in which she will reiterate her charges against Lord Byron and Mrs. Leigh, and in which she promises to put in the possession of her readers facts and incidents that she did not think proper at first to state. In order to give this work all possible publicity, Mrs. Stowe's publishers, Fields, Osgood & Co., have taken the pains to forward to the newspapers the introductory chapter, in which the originator of the scandal gives her reasons for her first article and for this defense of it. We would be very glad to avoid advertising this performance, but the interest felt in the subject is so great that it is impossible the press of the country can remain silent upon it; and there is nothing left for us to do but to sift Mrs. Stowe's arguments, and show the shadow ground upon which she builds such a gigantic superstructure of loathsome scandal. Of course, if she produces positive proofs of the guilt of Lord Byron, we will be obliged to believe. In such a case as this, however, the burden of proof rests upon the accuser; and Mrs. Stowe will be obliged to give us something more substantial in the way of facts than she has done heretofore, before her story will be entitled to the slightest credence. On the appearance of her article in the Atlantic, the press of the United States immediately exposed the incorrectness of its statements of fact and the utter fallacy of its arguments, and when it reached England, evidence was forthcoming which convinced every dispassionate reader that the accusation of Mrs. Stowe was a false and malicious slander. In the introductory chapter of her new book, which we publish on our seventh page, Mrs. Stowe gives us her reason for making her disclosures, that she considered it her duty to do so. This may be satisfactory to her, but it will not be to any one else, and the criticisms bestowed upon her original effort indicate what she may expect if her reiteration of the slander falls short of absolute and incontrovertible proof. Mrs. Stowe, however, claims and says she will prove "that it was not I who stirred up this controversy in the year 1869. I shall show who did do it, and who is responsible for bringing on me that hard duty of making these disclosures, which appear to me ought to have been made by others."

As regards the disclosures made by Lady Byron, Mrs. Stowe states that there was no injunction of secrecy, but that the facts were given to her to use as she saw fit; and as regards the feebleness of her plea, she urges in excuse the exhausted state of her health when the article was written, in the following extraordinary language:—"I have been told that I have no reason to congratulate myself on it as a literary effort. O my brothers and sisters! is there then nothing in the world to think of but literary efforts? I ask any man, with a story so cruel, because his mother's grave gave no rest from slander; I ask any woman who had been forced to such a disclosure to free a dead sister's name from gross imputations, whether she would have thought of making this work of bitterness a literary success? Are the cries of the oppressed, the gasps of the dying, the deep prayers of mothers—are any words wrung like drops of blood from the human heart to be judged as literary efforts?"

When penning these words, did Mrs. Stowe have no thought of the unhappy children of the woman whom she branded with infamy? Towards the press of America, Mrs. Stowe adopts a lofty tone of compassion, stating that she has read none of the attacks on her—which, by the way, we do not believe; it is not in woman nature—and then puts in as a plea for a further hearing the reasons that urged her to take the course she did. These reasons were the old ones of the publication of the Comtesse Guiccioli's book and an article attacking Lady Byron in Blackwood's Magazine for July, 1869. These excuses were declared insufficient before by the public of America and Europe, and they will scarcely be admitted now; and the gushingly sentimental style of this introductory chapter does not promise very well for those that are to follow. We did hope that the last had been heard of this unhappy business, but as Mrs. Stowe has determined to keep the field, she will have to take the consequences.

THE DANES seem occasionally to have a queer way of showing their patriotism. At a public dinner given the other day at Nijboing to celebrate the anniversary of the death of Frederick VII, there were about fifty people present, some of the highest State dignitaries among them, and when the gentleman fixed upon rose to propose a toast to the memory of the late monarch, one of the guests, a "notability," suddenly shouted, "No, no!" and vociferously protesting this expression of dissent brought the proceedings to an uncomfortable and embarrassing standstill. At last he was asked to explain himself, to "motivate" his opinion, which he finally did in these words—"He was a beast." Great confusion followed, until another guest rose to protest against this dictum, and further to declare that if anybody did not agree with the proposed toast he had better leave the room, "in good old Danish fashion." This brought up a partisan on the other side, who suggested that "the gentleman who had just sat down had better begin by doing so himself. Finally, the

State Councillor Petersen brought order into the tumultuous proceedings by telling the assembly that, as everybody had the liberty of his opinion, so had the gentleman the right to disapprove of the late monarch. The Danish papers are very angry, chiefly with those many State officers who were present, decorated with the orders of him whom they so ill defected.

A CURIOUS PAPER WAR has broken out between the semi-official journals of Moscow and Berlin. Count Bismark's organ, the Nord-Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, after several violent attacks upon the Moscow Gazette on account of the hostility shown by the latter towards the policy of Prussia, openly declared in its issue of the 10th of November that M. Katkoff, the editor of the Russian paper, is "inspired" by the exiled Court of Hanover at Hietzing. To this M. Katkoff replies that he does not "receive inspirations from Hietzing any more than from Berlin." "But," he adds, "truth obliges us to declare, and even to prove" (underlining the word) "if necessary, that it is not from Hietzing, but from Berlin that an attempt has been made to gain our advocacy. Our readers know whether this attempt has been successful." In another part of the same article M. Katkoff plainly hints that the Prussian Government is endeavoring to undermine Russian authority in Poland. General Potopoff, the Governor of Lithuania, refuses to carry on the system of spoliation recommended by the old Russian party, and M. Katkoff attributes to Prussian influence the decision of the Government of St. Petersburg sanctioning the general's proceedings in this matter.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE NEW YEAR BEING NEAR AT HAND, THE GRAND CLEARING SALE NOW PROGRESSING AT NOS. 818 AND 820 CHESTNUT STREET, WILL BE VIGOROUSLY PUSHED FOR THE FEW DAYS REMAINING OF THE OLD YEAR.

STILL FURTHER ACCOMMODATION OF PRICES! CHESTNUT STREET CLOTHING BELOW MARKET STREET PRICES!

BOYS' CLOTHING OF THE FINEST QUALITY AND BEST STYLES. AT LOWER PRICES THAN EVER. JOHN WANAMAKER'S CHESTNUT STREET CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT, NOS. 818 AND 820 CHESTNUT STREET.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TRENTON AND FIFTEENTH STREETS PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY. THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TRENTON AND FIFTEENTH STREETS PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY. THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TRENTON AND FIFTEENTH STREETS PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

A VALUABLE PRESENT FOR THE HOLIDAYS! THE PARHAM NEW FAMILY SEWING MACHINE. WE claim for this new machine the most perfect, simple, and reliable Lock Stitch Family Sewing Machine ever invented, and an examination will convince the most skeptical. It is designed for every description of Family Sewing or Manufacturing purposes. It is adapted to a much greater range and variety of work than heretofore offered to the public. Every improvement that ingenuity can invent or art suggest is applicable to this machine. All machines warranted. Call and examine. [12 24 64] SALESROOM, NO. 704 CHESTNUT STREET.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

ANNUAL B. A. DELAWARE ENGINE FIRE COMPANY, No. 4, to be given at MUSICAL HALL, NEW YEAR'S EVE, FRIDAY, Dec. 31, 1869. TICKETS, ONE DOLLAR. DEBATE NOW GOING ON EVERY NIGHT THIS WEEK, at the old Rev. Stockton's Church, ELEVENTH and WOOD Streets, at 7 o'clock P. M., between Dr. GATES, of this city, and Professor FISH, of Massachusetts. PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD CO., Office, No. 237 S. FOURTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27, 1869. DIVIDEND NOTICE. The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed on FRIDAY, the 31st instant, and reopened on TUESDAY, January 11, 1870. A dividend of FIVE PER CENT. has been declared on the Preferred and Common Stock, clear of National and State taxes, payable in CASH, on and after January 17, 1870, to the holders thereof as they shall stand registered on the books of the Company on the 31st instant. All papers at this office. All orders for dividend must be witnessed and stamped. S. BHA'ER, Treasurer. EAST PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY. Notice is hereby given to the Stockholders of this Company, that the Annual Meeting of the Company will be held at the City of READING, on MONDAY, the 10th day of January, 1870, between 12 M. and 3 P. M. PHILADELPHIA, December 8, 1869. WEST CHESTER AND PHILADELPHIA RAILROAD COMPANY. The next Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at the City of CHESTER, on MONDAY, the 14th day of January, A. D. 1870, at 11 o'clock A. M., and where an Election will be held of Officers to serve the ensuing year. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 11, 1869. A. LEWIS SMITH, Secretary. PENNSYLVANIA VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY. Office, No. 122 S. SECOND STREET, PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27, 1869. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at this Office, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M., on MONDAY, the 10th day of January, 1870. W. B. WHITNEY, Secretary. THE PHILADELPHIA, WILMINGTON, AND BALTIMORE RAILROAD COMPANY. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company and an Election of Directors will take place at the Office of the Company, in WASHINGTON, on MONDAY, the 10th day of January, 1870, at 1 P. M. NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31, 1869. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11, 1870, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 3 P. M. THE COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 11, 1869. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of January, 1870, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 3 P. M. FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 10, 1869. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of January, 1870, between the hours of 11 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M. CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 11, 1869. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11, 1870, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 12 o'clock M. SOUTH WALK NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 11, 1869. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 11, 1870, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 12 o'clock M. COLD WEATHER DOES NOT CHAP OR CRACK after using MUMFORD'S Glycerine. It daily use makes the skin delicately soft and beautiful. Sold by R. G. A. WRIGHT, 249 N. 2d St. QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LONDON AND LIVERPOOL. CAPITAL, £2,000,000. SABINE, ALLEN & DULLES, Agents, FIFTH and WALNUT STREETS. HOLIDAY GOODS. R. & C. A. WRIGHT, No. 624 CHESTNUT STREET, Have just received a large assortment of NEW AND ELEGANT Fancy Articles, Selected in Europe this season for their NOVELTY AND BEAUTY, ESPECIALLY FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. Also, a large and beautiful assortment of genuine MEMBERSCHAUM PIPES, AT VERY REDUCED PRICES. A. J. IANDER, JR., No. 132 WEST SECOND STREET, Also, No. 100 FULTON AVENUE, BROOKLYN, N. Y. HOLIDAY GOODS. Such as all the NEW STYLES OF EMBROIDERIES, CHAIRS, TOWEL-RACKS, FOOT-RESTS. Also, a full line of PAPER-EMBROIDERED PATTERNS, WORSTED SILK, BRADS, ETC. MONOGRAMS DRAWN TO ORDER. W. H. TAGGART, COAL DEALER. COAL OF THE BEST QUALITY, PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR FAMILY USE. 1208, 1210 and 1212 WASHINGTON AV., Between Twelfth and Thirteenth streets. COAL! COAL! COAL! The place to buy is at CITY HEAD, 78 COAL DEPOT, Corner of NINTH and GIRARD AVENUE. BEST QUALITY WHITE ASH. Egg and Stone. Delivered to any part of the city. PURE LEHIGH AND SCHUYLKILL FAMILY-FABRIK AND BITUMINOUS COALS. Largest stock always on hand. South-east corner THIRTEENTH and WILLOW Streets 12 18 4m W. W. & G. D. HAINES. THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING RELINQUISHED the Heating of Buildings by Steam or Water, it will be continued by WILLIAM H. WISTAR, lately superintending that department of their business, whom they recommend to their friends. Nov. 19, 1868. MORRIS, TASKER & CO. WISTAR & BOULTON, No. 227 SOUTH FIFTH STREET. HEATING BY STEAM OR HOT WATER. PLANS OF PIPE OUT TO ORDER. LAUNDRIES AND CULINARY APPARATUS FITTED UP. WARBURTON'S IMPROVED VENTILATED and easy-fitting Dress Hats (patented), in the approved fashion of the season. CHESTNUT STREET next door to the Post Office.

CLOTHING.

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