Evening Telegraph

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1870.

MISMANAGEMENT OF THE STATE TREASURY.

THE legislative investigation into the manner in which the State Treasury has been managed promises to be more complete than was at first anticipated. Mr. Mackey, the outgoing Treasurer, was on the witness stand yesterday, and his answers to various interrogatories were in themselves sufficient to demonstrate the demoralizing and unjust nature of the present system, and to clearly indicate the necessity of sweeping reforms.

One of the first questions asked was in regard to the amount of the present balance, which he stated to be about \$1,700,000; and as at least a million dollars of this sum might as well have been appropriated to the reduction of the indebtedness of the State, there is an evident annual loss to the taxpayers of \$60,000 in this one item alone. The subsequent answers prove that while the people lose a large amount of interest, this loss enures to the profit of such banks and bankers as are fortunate enough to win the favor of the Treasurer. The committee displayed no little anxiety to learn whether the selections of that official were influenced by personal pecuniary considerations, but on this point Mr. Mackey was extremely reticent, as will be seen by the following extracts from the testimony:-

Q. What was your balance with J. E. Ridgway on the first of August last? A. It was never changed from Mr. Ridgway from what I received it my predecessor, namely, one hundred thou-

frem my predecessor, namely, one hundred thousand dollars.

Q. That is since you came into office? A. Yes, sir.
Q. Have you received any consideration for permitting that money to remain there? A. I cannot answer that question if I am to be avaigned for supposed malfeavance in office.
Q. I simply want the facts? A. If I am to be avaigned, I want to be arraigned according to law; I really want to give you the freest and follest exhibition of the Treasury, as far as I am concerned, but I do not wish to be placed in a false position.

Remarks by Wallace—I have no threats to make, and an promises to make. It would be absurd for us to promise there should be no prosecution. Our duty is well defined. We simply want to know what is the present and past condition of the Treasury.

the present and past condition of the Treasury.

A. While I am perfectly willing to give you the exact position of the Treasury, if it is to involve me in a question of prosecution, I decline to anser this question. And again: -

Q. Have you received any interest or compensa-Q. Have you received any lineress or compensation, direct or indirect, at any time, for use of any moneys of the Commonwealth? A. I thought the other question covered that.

Q. Any interest or compensation, direct or indirect, for moneys of the Commonwealth? A. For the same reason I decline to answer. If I am to be arraigned, I prefer it to be done in the right way.

On the general question of the free use of the public money for private benefit, Mr. Mackey was more communicative. For instance, when asked "whether the money in his hands was ready to be used at any time to meet the demands of the Government," he said .__

"Yes, air: every dollar of it, except the advances made to members of the Legislature and other officers for which I got no credit."

And when Mr. Mackey was pressed more closely in regard to the readiness of the depositaries to pay his drafts promptly, the following testimony was given:-

Q. Were these depositaries at all times able to sustain the drafts of your department? A. I do not know that they were, without giving them some trouble; I do not think that any bank would keep its money idle.

Q. Has not the practical working of the system been to permit the banks to use it by loaning? A.

Certainly.

Q. Could you not have drawn, for example, a draft upon the First National Bank at Harrisburg, of whatever balance was there, and have it honored promptly? A. I suppose it might have been honored but it might have given them a great deal of the state of

When questioned in regard to the use of money to control elections, Mr. Mackey said that he had not used the funds of the Commonwealth for this purpose, but he acknowledged that he had "spent a little of his own occasionally" for this laudable purpose.

Independent of these statements it will be seen by the testimony that the money of the State is scattered over the Commonwealth in a decidedly loose manner; that two of the depositaries are acknowledged to be insolvent: and that the balances handed over to Mr. Mackey by his predecessor consisted of a miscellaneous assortment of "moneys in banks, sight checks, and some other things," which the witness was not prepared to describe in detail.

This statement is by no means gratifying to taxpayers. It plainly proves that the Treasurv is managed in the interest of banks, bankers, and the Treasurer, rather than in the interest of the people; that balances are suffered to accumulate unnecessarily, as if for the express purpose of enriching officials and their favorites; and while some positive losses (exclusive of interest) have already occurred through this loose system, a commercial revulsion might swell the aggregate of these deficiencies to a large sum.

It will be easy for the legislators, if they are earnestly devoted to reform, to devise a remedy for nearly all these evils, and we trust that the present investigation will result not merely in the exposure of a wrong, but in the prompt application of a remedy.

A BILL has been introduced in the Legisla ture to grant the Thirteenth and Fifteenth Streets Railway Company permission to lay a single track on Locust street, so that a connection can be made on the evenings when the Academy of Music and Horticultural Hall Presidents of the Fenian brotherhood, are occupied, for the benefit of the audiences in attendance at those places. The passage of this bill has been requested by a large number of citizens, and the advantages of such a connection will be apparent at the first glance to all who have experienced the inconvenience of rushing through the rain and mud to reach a car make up the difference without needless on a stormy opera night. By means of a delay.

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| track on Locust street, between Thirteenth and Fifteenth streets, a number of cars can be in waiting at the doors of the Academy of Music to receive passengers, to the very great accommodation of the residents in the upper part of the city who visit that establishment. This proposition is entitled to the favorable consideration of the Legislature, and we hope that it will pass without opposition.

ALMOST A REALITY. THE Legislature of Georgia yesterday gave its assent to the proposed fifteenth amend ment to the Federal Constitution. It is gratifying to read that the majority in each house was so overwhelming that, even if the members recently unseated had been in their

places and voted solidly against the amendment, it would still have received a large majority. This favorable action of Georgia swells the list of States which have ratified the amendment to twenty-eight, the full number required to make it a part of the fundamental law of the land.

But there are a few hitches to be remedied before it can be proclaimed as such. Kansas, which was the first State to attempt the ratification, did her work imperfectly, and was obliged to do it over again, after the lapse of nearly a year from the time of her first action. One branch of the Legislature has already remedied the defective ratification, and it is possible that the other has done so, although we have not as yet been advised of the fact by telegraph. The action of Iowa is also incomplete, each of the two houses having passed a resolution of ratification, and each demanding that the other shall abandon its initiatory action and concur in the resolutions of the other. This looks all very well from the standpoint of dignity, but if Iowa desires to maintain her reputation as one of the most liberal and progressive Commonwealths in the Union, she will patch up this difficulty without further delay, and put the amendment at rest, as far as it lies in her power to do so.

Nebraska and Texas are yet to act upon the amendment, and there can be no possible doubt as to the action of each of them, the Legislature of the former being largely Republican, while that of the latter will unquestionably comply with the conditions of restoration established by Congress. When these two States shall have wheeled into line, and Kansas and Iowa shall have perfected their part of the great work, the complement of twenty-eight States will be full without including in the list New York, which has attempted to withdraw her assent, or Indiana, which gave an affirmative vote under circumstances that have enabled the Democracy to maintain that it was illegal and void.

TENNESSEE DEMOCRACY. A good thing was scarcely looked for out of Tennessee, but a good thing has come out of Tennessee, for all that. We have received by mail an outline of the speech made by the Hon. A. O. P. Nicholson in the State Constitutional Convention in Iavor of securing the elective franchise to the negro race by constitutional enactment. Mr. Nicholson, at the outbreak of the war, was the colleague of Andrew Johnson in the Senate, and strove zealously to avert the threatened conflict. His labor was in vain, and, like many another Southern leader from whom a wiser course might have been expected, espoused the cause of secession, when he found himself powerless to contend against it. But, since the war, he has been an earnest advocate of peace and harmony, and his address to the Constitutional Convention of Tennessee shows that he thoroughly understands and accepts the situation. He points out to the constitution makers of the State the fact that a great and powerful government has decreed that the negro shall possess the ballot, and asks them what they propose to do to prevent it. This is a sound argument, but it is not the soundest that Mr. Nicholson brings to bear upon the point at issue. "What great principles," he asks his colleagues, "are at stake in giving to the negro the right to vote? Have you not acknowledged that he is free in the bill of rights? Would it be just to tax the colored people and not allow them the ballot? Have you not been told time and again that taxation without representation is tyranny?" And these pertinent inquiries he rounds off with the declaration that this is not a white man's government. Mr. Nicholson is still a Democrat, but his Democracy is not of the stripe which holds sway over the river in Jersey, and manifests its antediluvian instincts by rejecting the fifteenth amendment. While such men as the Hon. A. O. P. Nicholson are entrusted with the task of amending the State constitution by the Democracy-or the Conservatives, if you pleaseof Tennessee, there is no immediate danger of that State going utterly to the dogs. In New Jersey the case is vastly different.

INNATE MODESTY will crop out. Some men are so largely blessed with it that, although they fain would hide it under a bushel they cannot do otherwise than blazon it to the world. Here's Judge McKenzie, of Canada, for example, who drops down to Washington from his hyperborean haunts to collect a little bill of \$40,000 for services rendered the Government of the United States in defending before the courts of the Dominion sundry Fenian raiders who came to grief. The Judge has succeeded in getting his modest fingers on \$5000, and freely expresses the hope that he will be able to get hold of the balance. But to the tax-payer the notion will perhaps occur that \$40,000 for defending Fenian raiders is rather steep, especially when the whole of it goes into the pocket of the estimable Judge. This hyperborean advocate had better pay his respects to the several through whose folly his clients were placed in jeopardy. If the 'Judge must have full \$40,000, and can't possibly get along without it, and will persist forever after in abusing this "blarsted" country, and its "blarsted" Government, and all that sort of thing, in case he doesn't get it, the Brotherhood had better !

CHERREUL NEW YORK! The Times of our neighbor city parades before its readers the murderous catalogue which the metropolitan villainy of January has rolled up. Tairty deaths from violence are recorded, and nine suicides by way of varying the monotony. A murder every day in the month save one, with the variation of a suicide every fourth day, and one to spare to make up for the day when there was no murder! In view of this cheerful state of affairs, it is no wonder that the Times exclaims: - "What is to be done for the protection of life and property in this city? It is a farce to speak any longer of our government or our laws. Both are treated with contempt by the outlaws who live by robbery and violence." But New York should take courage, as becomes a metropolitan city. The Democracy has possession of every branch of the State Government, and is just getting ready to upset all the obnoxious commissions which Republican Legislatures have saddled upon the city. When these have gone by the board, and the rough and ready Democracy of New York once more enjoy the unaccustomed luxury of self-government, there may be a change for the better. It is possible, also, that there may be a change for

THE Kentucky House of Representatives faithful to the doctrines of the sage of Confederate X Roads, yesterday tabled, by a vote of 73 to 13, a resolution providing for the repeal of the statutes against negro testimony. Her people will perhaps discover, some time during the next century, that slavery has been abolished, and that all black laws must fall with it, but they are now too thoroughly Democratic to comprehend the spirit or the necessities of the age.

Ir is announced that Prince Arthur of England is about to pay a visit to King Cameron of Peansylvania. Nothing would be more appropriate. The royal families should all be courteous to each other, and if the power of the ruler of this State, before whom governors and legislators kneel obsequiously, is not founded on claims as antiquated as those of Queen Victoria, it is at least based on the most potent of modern divine rights.

INCREDIBLE ATROCITY.

A Mother Shot with her Buby at the Breast. By a gentleman from up the Seaboard road, ays the Richmond Dispatch of Monday, we says the Richmond Dispatch of Monday, we have just heard the details of a most horrible crime committed by some fiend incarnate in Mecklenburg county, Va., near Gaston, N. C., on Friday night last. The Dispatch continues:— It appears that a lady by the name of Mrs. Rollins, who lives in that neighborhood, was sitting in her house with a baby at her breast nursing, and two or three of her small children playing round about her in the room, when the murderer approached the window and discharged a double-barrelled gun, loaded with buckshot and several large slugs, into her right side which passed through her body and came out on her left side near the region of her heart, killing her instantly. The infant at her breast was not hurt, nor were any of the other children. There

were no grown persons in the room at the time.

Mr. Rollins, the husband of the lady, was absent at the time, having been at court that day. The gun was fired between 8 and 9 o'clock at night, and he and several gentlemen were within hearing distance of its report. They heard it, and one remarked to the other that the report seemed to be in Mr. Rollins' yard, but he thought it was nearer to them than that, and on arriving at home and going into the house, horrible to relate, there they found the corpse of Mrs. Rollins as she had fallen from her chair, with the baby in her arms, and crying at the sight of the blood pouring from her wounds.

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For additional Special Notices see the Inside Pages. JOHN WANAMAKER

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BAYARD TAYLOR, March 3, Subject-"French Folks at Home."
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Subject-"Chemical Forces in Nature and the Arts." Subject—"Chemical Forces in Nature and the Arts."
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The Stated Annual Meeting of the stockholders of this Company will be held at its office, No. 229 and 33 CHESNUT Street, on TURSDAY, the 5th day of February neat, at 12 o'clock M, for the election of a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such further business as may come before them.

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Fire Fremiums written same

95-84 Fire... Interest on investments, sal-vages, etc... \$106,645-45

Losses, expenses, etc., during same time:— Marine losses..... Fire losses ... Reinsurance and commis-Return Premiums..... Rent, salaries and ex-United States tax and 11,077-65

State tax...

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153,822-05 \$12,823 40

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Camden and Amboy Railroad Six per cent. Bonds, 1883.

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Pennsylvania Railroad First Mortgage
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8,800.00

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35,160 72

\$255,695 39

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