SFIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

REFORM AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR. From the N. Y. Times.

It is to be hoped that great practical good will result, and that quickly, from the mea-sures which have been taken for the reform of the New Bork Bar. Two things are perfectly obvious—that these proceedings have not been adopted a day too soon, and that the reformers have a difficult enterprise before them. Externally there are, of course, no obstructions. The stumbling blocks will present themselves within the boundaries of the legal profession. The members of the bar who have met to consider the need of radical changes are thoroughly in earnest, but they must know better than other people how little it would be to the interest of many of their professional brethren to see the proposed reform accomplished. A large proportion of advocates would prefer to carry on a business subject to no criticism or supervision. They are quite satisfied, if not with their present profits, at least with the way in which those profits are made. It would greatly interfore with their "connection" to compel them to conform with any code of honor save the very peculiar one which they invented for themselves, and which is based upon the ideas of their worst clients.

The reformers will have to fight against the open opposition of some, and the silent and sullen resistance of many more. But they ought not to be deterred by this pros-pect from endeavoring to free their profession from the dark and grievous scandal which has gathered so thickly upon it. No respectable man would voluntarily rest under the odium which is popularly associated with the New York bar. The public cannot rightly apportion the blame between indi-viduals. It can only look at affairs of this kind in the mass and from the outside. It has the best of reasons for knowing that never did bench and bar stand lower in the estimation of civilized mankind than the Bar and bench of New York city. The members who do not deserve to be involved in the general condemnation owe it to themselves to come forward and let their dissatisfaction be known. The judges may look upon the act with displeasure, but the time is fast coming when the bench itself will be unable to exist in its present degraded state before the torrent of indignation which is rising

steadily against it. With regard to the precise means by which on the institution of marriage, have also broken down the great barrier of safety to the bar is to be "purified," the members who human life in undermining the only penalty conferred together on Tuesday did wisely to that appalls the thought of the murderer Without the weakening effect that the doc-trines of these persons have had on the pubbegin at the beginning. They put forward the claim that they ought to have more control over admissions to the bar, and that the lic mind, it would never have been possible laws "which have made access to the bar as for judges to so scout justice and for all the easy as to the theatre" ought to be abolished. authorities to so connive at the escape of mur-This touches the root of the evil. When anyderers as they have done. Then consider the body and everybody can be a member of the direct effect of these lessons on the murderers. bar, what distinction or honor can it confer? "Hanging for murder is played out," therefore murder on-never stint your will; keep the tools plying till "the heart shall be merely a strop for the knife." For murder What security is there against the admission of unworthy and incapable men? A positive and unerring safeguard of this nature it would, of course, be very hard to devise. The there is at worst an imprisonment of a few bar in all countries has contained men who years. For theft there is also an imprisonwere a disgrace to it. But it is quite possible ment of a few years. Now, the criminal to set up a partial test. A few years ago it was classes distinguish between crimes only by found that a preliminary examination kept the results to themselves-the penalty; there away a very undesirable class of applicants from the English bar. It had formerly been fore, they read this-the same punishment the same crime. Hence the butcher Bream the custom to admit any one to an Inn of believes that for what he did in Hudson Court as a student, provided the applicant. street he will have a few years in prison, just paid certain fees, and complied with certain the same as he might if he had stolen the easy conditions. But afterwards an examinaold grocer's till. He is ready for that, but tion was ordered before the applicant could he ' But though the state of the public mind on this topic has rendered it possible for corrupt be admitted even as a student. It was not a very severe examination; but it acted as a sort of filter, and kept out men of the very class judges to trifle with the safety of society who in this city flock to the bar for the exwithout danger to themselves, yet nothing press purpose of making it an instrument of corruption. An extension of that system here would certainly be productive of good results. Furthermore, it is quite practicable to place in the hands of the bar itself greater power to punish those who are bringing it to disgrace. The reformers must agree upon the exact machinery to be employed, but the end is as-suredly not unattainable. No matter upon what measures they determine, we cannot but wish them success. A noble profession has been dragged in the dust, and the injury which the public has sustained in consequence can scarcely be overestimated. A man who consults with a lawyer ought to be able to trust in his honor as thoroughly as he would in that of his physician. Every one knows that there are many members of the bar here who are so trusted. The speakers at the meeting on Tuesday night, and the names placed upon the committee, are examples of this higher class. But there are also lawyers occupying a high position who have sold for a mess of pottage the heritage which they ought to have preserved. They cannot barter their good names without suffering the penalty in the loss of public esteem. It is an advocate's duty to give his services in all cases which do not involve his personal dishonor; but there are members of the New York bar who have disregarded that limitation. The time has arrived for making them sensible of the offense they have committed. The community is at length aroused to a full perception of the dangers which menace it in consequence of a corrupt judiciary and a depraved bar. The bonds which hold civilized society together are going to pieces. We are living as if in a state of siege, our masters being the outcasts of every nation and people on the face of the earth. All that happens to a murderer now is to be kept in gentle confine-ment at the public expense. The public, we may depend upon it, will have no more of this vast abuse. Every fresh crime stirs up a deeper feeling. With civil justice it is the same. The people are weary of seeing judges and connsel joining with chartered swindlers in one common league against law and right. It was inevitable that an end should come to so monstrous .a confederation. We believe that above the din and confusion which at present engage the men's attention we already discern the beginning of the end.

that the indulgence of its impulses was abso- | it before the people, and sound views of poli- | THE ARMY AND THE DIPLOMATIC | On all her institutions rests the mildew of tical economy. Even the conservative papers of his section approve the choice, believing lutely safe. The worst feature of all these crimes is the readiness with which violators of the law push minor offenses to the enoras they do that no other leading member of the Republican party would be more likely to mity of murder. Here is an old man in Hudadvocate a policy of moderation, generosity, and mutual forbearance. He will certainly son street who refuses to harbor a rogue that comes into his house, and this refusal invites a death-blow. He keeps his eye so closely on be more devoted to the welfare of the country, and prove a truer exponent of the the intruder into his little shop that no chance is afforded for the theft he went to commit. people's interests, than was Jeff Davis when Ordinarily we might suppose a thief thus he occupied the seat to which the Doctor has foiled would go away and ply his craft else-where. But no; he stays and murders where been chosen. If colored members are to figure hereafter in the proceedings of the he cannot steal. To him there is no differ-ence between these orimes. He would as soon commit one as the other. He is equally United States Senate, it does not seem possi-ble to have selected one better fitted to inaugurate the practice. ready to extend his hand to take a watch or The point is made that Revels is disquatake a life. He would as leave strike as

lified under that provision of the Constitution which requires that a Senator shall have been for nine years a resident of the United States. This resuscitates the dictum of Judge Taney in the Dred Scott case, that a negro was not a citizen, and assumes that he became such only by virtue of constitutional amendment in 1866. But the practice of the majority in Congress has been to regard all persons as citizens who are natives of the Union, and the disqualification is held applicable only to aliens, who are invested with the suffrage itself through processes of naturalization. Even if the other view were taken, precedent is against a literal application of the theory. When Texas was annexed, and when California was admitted, their inhabitants had been foreigners, yet they were immediately accorded representation in the Senate and House, notwithstanding the requirement of nine years citizenship for one and seven years for the other body. A similar plan will no doubt be pursued towards the reconstructed States. If Dr. Revels is denied his seat, the pretense may be set up that he is legally disqualified, but the fact will be that his color operates as a bar against admission. In view of the long and successful fight which the Republican party has made for civil equality, it does not seem probable that the majority in the Senate will care to assume this ground. The test must be made some time-better have it come while the friends of the colored race control all departments of the Government, and while they are likely to have the encouragement of sympathy and fair play.

SENSATION IN JOURNALISM.

From the N. Y. World.

The Chicago Tribune has an article upon some recent remarks of ours touching this topic. Its observations, though just enough in the main, show that that journal entirely misapprehends the point of the article to which it replies. That may be its fault, or ours. In pleading for a fuller treatment in newspapers of whatever concerns society, and freer admission to them of social topics which concern all men and women, while politics, which is the staple subject of their chronicles and controversies now, is of interest to only a moiety of men and to no women, we by no means meant to limit that treatment to such cases as were offenses against society. The Tribune considers that ve meant to promote the practice of detailing "an act of seduction, adultery, or rape." Such things may be the only interesting social topics in Chicago, and the Tribune is naturally led to the assumption that they are everywhere. But we beg to assure it that the "relation of the sexes," which we spoke of as being a subject of uni versal interest, is not confined to acts of "seduction, adultery, or rape" in New York. Those are very lamentable and very exceptional excrescences here from the social sys tem. And it is, among other things, that they might be as inconsiderable in Chicago as they are here, and that they might be lessened everywhere, that we urged the discussion of our social system: of which our political sys-

SERVICE.

From the N. V. Sun. All sensible citizens will approve of the proposition to dismiss from the army such fficers as are really superfluous. The number of these unnecessary officers amounts, it is said, to over five hundred, and the saving to be effected by discharging them will be something like a million of dollars a year. The country will gain both by the reduction of the pay-roll, and by the transfer of five hundred men from the non-producing to the producing class; and yet it must not be for-gotten that our relation to this class of public servants is very different from our relation to those of any other class, or that our obli gations to them are of a much more sacred

But there is another branch of the national service to which the pruning knife of retrenchment could be applied even more profitably than to the army. Indeed, we are sure that it might better be lopped off altogether. While we are busy considering what we shall do with our military men, who have great claims upon us for their services during the war, suppose we look a moment at our costly and useless ambassadors abroad, who have no claims at all. Not one in Congress has yet introduced a bill to reduce their number or their emoluments; but if any money was ever worth saving, it is that which goes for their support.

For instance, we are paying \$17,500 a year to the Hon. J. Lothrop Motley for the arduous labor of living in a fine house in London, eating no end of good dinners, toadying the British aristocracy, and occasionally delivering a bungling and useless despatch written here in America by Caleb Cushing or Sidney Webster, and signed by

Secretary Fish. For doing about the same thing in Paris that Mr. Motley does in London, the Hon. Elihu B. Washburne also gets \$17,500 a year. Fortunately for him, however, the President is not very exacting in requiring his attend-ance at the French Court, and lets him off for months at a time to visit Homburg and other famous watering-places. When there is any real work to be done, such as trying to negotiate a postal treaty, some Congressman or other has to be sent out to do it, at an extra expense of several thousands of dollars. At Berlin we are paying Mr. George Bancroft \$12,000. At St. Petersburg, Governor Curtin gets \$12,000. To Vienna we have sent Mr. John Jay, and allow him \$12,000, which enables him to give close attention to his wife's father's property, so that none of it may be snatched away by his brother-in-law. At Lisbon we were paying Mr. Shellabarger \$7500, but, like a sensible man, he resigned and came home, tired of having nothing to do. The Ministers to Spain, Brazil, Mexico, China, and Italy also get \$12,000 each; those to Chili and Peru, each \$10,000; and those to twenty-two other countries, \$7500 each. The total amount required for salaries of these men and their various secretaries of legation, interpreters, and assistants, is \$357,850 a year, all of which is invariably paid in gold. Besides this, \$100,020 is appropriated for contingencies, making the total cost of our diplomatic service \$457,850 in gold, annually. Now this seems a small sum compared with the total of our national expenses; but it is certainly worth saving, and in the course of time will amount to something handsome. In ten years it would come to \$5,000,000, in twenty years to \$10,000,000, and so on. get nothing for it that is of any value. Our consuls can do, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, all that our ambassadors do, and in the hundredth case special envoys could be called into requisition, as they are at present. Where is the shrewd member of the House

of Representatives to attack this time-honored abuse, and make himself famous as a genuine economist ? Or will all our statesmen prefer instead to turn out of office the

suspicion. Something of her truest life has been frightened into the convents, and saddened into the Church, yet around both are the shadows of calumny and notoristy. Now comes to us a confirmation of the report that revolution is active in the States of Michoncan, Queretaro, Puebla, San Luis, Guerrero, and we may have to add Morelos. The situation seems hopeless, remarks a Vera Oruz paper. Under these circumstances, Mr. Seward must revise his speech to the pyramid.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

OFFICE OF WELLS, FARGO & COM-PANY, No. 84 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, December 36, 1969.-Notice is hereby gives, that the Transfor Books of Wells, Pargo & Company will be CLOSED on the 19th day of JANUARY, 1870, at 3 o'clock P. M. to enable the Company to ascertain who are owners of the stock of the old Ten Million Capital. The owners of that stock will be entitled to participate in the distribution of assets provided for by the agreement with the Pacific Express Company. The Transfer Books will be opened on the 21d day of JANUABY, at 10 o'clock A. M., after which time the \$5,000,000 new stock will be delivered. Notice is also given that the Transfer Books of this Com-

pany will be CLOSED on the 25th day of JANUARY, 1870, at 3 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of holding the annual ELECTION OF DIRECTORS of this Company. The books will be RE-OPENED on the 7th day of FEB-RUARY, at 10 o'clock A. M. 12 31 tF7 GEORGE K. O'TIS, Secretary.

OFFICE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMFANY.

> PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 25, 1870. NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Com pany will be held on TUESDAY, the 15th day of February 1870, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the Hall of the Ass Buildings, S. W. corner of TENTH and OHESNUT

Streets, Philadelphia. The Annual Election for Directors will be held on MONDAY, the 7th day of March, 1870, at the Office of the Company, No. 238 S. THIRD Street, 18 1 25 3w JOSEPH T JOSEPH LESLEY, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE BELVIDERE MANU-FACTURING COMPANY. BELVIDERE, N. J., Doc. 8, 1989. Notice is hereby given to the stockholders of the BEL-VIDERE MANUE ACTURING COMPANY respectively, that assessments amounting to SIXTY PER CRNTUM of the capital stock of said company have been made and payment of the same called for on or before the eighth day of February, A. D. 1870, and that payment of such a scalled for and demanded from them on or before the said time.

Hime. By order of the Board of Directors. 1928 fw S. SIMERRERD, Secretary.

BEREARD, Secretary. OFFICE OF ST. NICHOLAS COAL COMPANY, No. 2055 WALNUT Street. PHILADELPHIA, Jac. 28, 1870, Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the St. Nicholas Coal Company will be held at this Office on MONDAY, Feb. 7, at 14 o'clock M.

An Election for a Board of Directors will be held at the anne time and place. 128 8t R. JOHNSTON, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY. THEASURY DEPARTMENT, } PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 31, 1870. Certificates of the Morizage Loan of this Company, due March 1, 1870, will be paid to holders thereof, or their legal representatives, on presentation at this office on and after that date, from which time interest will cense. S. SHEPHERD. . Minwrith Transarger. 1 31 mwfiltt

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAIL ROAD CO., Office, No. 227 S. FOURTH Street. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22, 1869. DIVIDEND NOTICE.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed on FRIDAY, the Sist instant, and reopened on TUESDAY

FRIDAY, the 31st instant, and respirate to a standard of 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 Sist instant. All payable at this office. All orders for dividend must be witnessed and stamped. S. BRADFORD, 18 29 601.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS THE CHESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANAL will be closed, for repairs to a look, on MONDAY MORN-ING, the 7th of February, 1870, and opened for navigation will be give HENRY V. LESLEY, Secretary. 1 27 dt12F Philadelphis, Jan. 27, 1870. THE PARHAM SEWING MAGHINE Company's New Family Sewing Machines are most emphatically pronounced to be that great desideratum so long and anxiously looked for, in which all the essential of a perfect machine are combined. 129 No. 704 CHESNUT Street. COMPANY, LONDON AND LIVERPOOL CAPITAL, 29,000,000, SABINE, ALLEN & DULLES, Agenta, FIFTH and WALNUT Streets. COLD WEATHER DOES NOT CHAP or roughen the skin after using WRIGHT'S AL-CONATED GLYCERINE TABLET OF SOLIDIFIED GLYCERINE. Its daily use makes the skin delicately soft and beautiful. Sold by all druggists. R. & G. A. WRIGHT, 244 Ro. 624 CHESNUT Street. COLTON DENTAL ASSOCIATION 10 originated the ancesthatic use of NTROUS OXIDE, OR LAUGHING GAS, And devote their whole time and practice to extracting teeth without pain. Office, RIGHTH and WALNUT Streets. 11 35 DR. F. R. THOMAS, THE LATE OPErator of the Colton Dental Association, is now the may one in Philadelphia who devotes his entire time and practice to extracting teeth, absolutely without pain, by tresh nitrous oxide gas. Office, 911 WALNUT St. 1 385 WINES AND LIQUORS. HER MAJESTY CHAMPAGNE. DUNTON & LUSSON. 215 SOUTH FRONT STREET. THE ATTENTION OF THE TRADE IS solicited to the following very Choice Wines, etc., for sale by DUNTON & LUSSON, 215 SOUTH FRONT STREET.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS

NEW YORK. RUNNING REGULARLY EVERY TUESDAY, THURS DAY, AND SATURDAY, AT ROON, would call attention of abippers to this SPECIAL NOTICE. Great Reduction of Rates. On opening of Spring Navigation the steamers of this line will run DAILY, at 5 cents per 100 lbs. 2 cents per foot, or % cent per gallon, ship's option. JOHN P. OHL.

SHIPPING

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LORILLARD STEAMSHIP

LINE FOR

No. 19 NORTH WHARVES N.B.-Extra rates on small packages iron, motals, etc.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE THE GENERAL TRANSATIANTIO COMPANY'S MAIL STRAMSHIPS BREST. BREAT. The spleudid new vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier No. 50, North river, every Saturday.

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PHILADELPHIA, RICHMOND, AND NORFOLK STEAMSHIP LINE. THROUGH FREIGHT AIR LINE TO THE SOUTH AND WEST. EVERY SATURDAY. At BOOD, from FIRST WHARF above MABKET

At noos, from Fixer WHARF above MARKET Street. THROUGH RATES to all points in North and South Carolina via Scaboard Air Line Raliroad, connecting at Portsmonth, and to Lønchburg. Va., Tennessee, and the West, via Virginis and Teonessee Air Line and Richmond and Danville Kailroad. Freight HANDLED BUT ONOE, and taken at LOWER RATES THAN ANY OTHER LINE. The regularity, safety, and cheapness of this route com-mend it to the public as the most desirable medium for carrying every description of freight. No charge ior commission, drayage, or any expense of transfer.

No charge for commission, drayage, or any expense transfer. Steamships insured at the lowest rates. Freight received daily. WILLIAM P. CLYDE & OO., No. 128. WHARVES and First N. WHARVES.

No. 12 S. WHARVES and Fier I N. WHA W. P. PORTER, Agent at Richmond and Cit; T. P. OROWELL & OO., Agents at Norfelk

CONNELLSVILLE GAS COAL COM-PANY, PHILADELHIA, JANUARY 34, 1870. The Annual Meeting of the stockholders of the COM-NELLSVILLE GAS COAL COMPANY will be held at their office, No. 3145 WALNUT Street, on MONDAY, February 7, 1870, at 12 o'clock M., to elect five Directors to serve for the ensuing year. 124mw16t NORTON JOHNSON, Secretary.

THE REIGN OF CRIME. From the N. Y. Herald.

Nothing in the history of Christian citiesthe worst capitals in the worst ages of the past-can equal or approach the dreadful prevalence of crime in this metropolitan shamble. Scarcely a day passes without its frightful story. Our city news is just now only spared chronicling two more murders, similar in character to the Townsend butchery, by the failure of the murderous aim in both cases. Already in the one month of this year we have chronicled a murder or attempted murder for every day in the month, and not one of these orimes but seems inspired by a spirit of fiendish savagery equal to the worst act men or devils could conceive. It is not only that the pistol and the knife are on all hands the ready arbiters of every difference, but it is almost as if some general madness to kill had taken possession of certain classes, and as if this frenzy rioted in the certainty of information, great ability in putting which they can all derive instruction.

excuses, nothing can in the least degree palliate, the heinous offenses that have been committed here in shielding murderers by the very machinery contrived for the administration of justice. Our city is corrupt and rotten with the guilt of this offense. The judge's ermine is dabbled in the blood of the citizen, and he holds his place, not to protect society, but to protect its foes.

does not want to die.

bandy words, and recks not at the thought

that the hand that strikes is armed with what

will make it unnecessary to repeat the blow.

He has a temper so desperate and savage as not to be appalled by any consequence of what he may do. The men who shot at the plumber in his doorway the other night sent

the bullet intended to murder him as their

answer to some speech of his. In a recent murder in a rum-shop, never yet investigated,

the fatal bullet was a retort in a discussion. It is so through the catalogue; and this readiness to kill is so notorious that citizens hesitate to interfere with lawlessness or vio-

lence of any sort, for a word may cripple a

It appears to us that the first cause of the

outburst of crime here is the vindictive, vio-

lent, desperate character of the rufflans of this

city, and their readiness to assert and perform

their own outrageous purposes, not only in defiance of all law and order, but with abso-

lute disregard to the extremity of the steps

they may take and the consequences that may ensue. But what is it that has within a few

years thus given the reins to the fury of these

murdering wretches? It is their conscious ness of immunity; their discovery of the enor-mous power that they wield in our corrupt

political system, in virtue of which power i

is impossible to punish them; the repeated connivance in their escape of all the authori-

ties, from the policeman in the street to the

judge on the bench; the state of the law,

the state of the administration of justice

in this city, and the state of the public

mind with regard to the death penalty.

Scarcely less guilty than the murderers them

selves are the so-called philanthropists who

have unsettled the public mind with regard to

the propriety of capital punishment. These lunatic teachers of free love, who have broken

down the morality of society in their assaults

man for life, and an affray is certain death.

SENATOR REVELS. From the Albany Journal.

The election of Dr. Revels, a colored man to the United States Senate from Mississippi presents in direct and practical form a ques tion arising naturally under the reconstructed condition of the South. It was not to be supposed that the colored race, admitted to equality of civil rights and political privileges by the fundamental law, would be content to exercise the merest elementary functions of citizenship-to satisfy themselves with voting white men into office, and resist the desire and temptation to seek for themselves the honors and emoluments of public station. In South Carolina and Mississippi, for instance, the black population is equal in numbers to that of whites. It embraces many shrewd, intelligent, ambitious men. Such persons naturally secure the confidence and support of their own class, and the wish to be represented to them must be instinctive. Thus we find that the reconstructed Legislatures invariably had many negro members, Nor has the experiment of fusion been attended with so many difficulties as were anticipated. In Georgia, a special occasion of trouble arose, through the judicial folly and blindness of the Democracy. But in North and South Carolina, Alabama and Louisiana, the freedmen legislators have acted with such moderation and wisdom as to command respect, allowing themselves to be guided by principles of sound statesmanship, avoiding all extremes, and evidencing an eagerness to prove themselves worthy of the high trusts bestowed upon them. So far as State administration is concerned, the problem may be considered settled. But we have yet to see the black man taking part in affairs of the National Government, occupying a seat in Congress, and impressing himself upon the Federal policy. Can the barriers of custom and the projudices of race be sufficiently overcome to render persons of color welcome in the halls of the Senate and House of Representatives ? And will they be able to hold their own in a competition with the intellect and political ability of the race that has heretofore held exclusive control in matters of state ?

The election of Dr. Revels presents this issue in a striking form, alike from the ex-alted nature of the office to which he lays claim, and from his own personal characteristics. No doubt he is an admirable type of the more intelligent colored people. He has enjoyed the advantages of a superior colle-giate education, of service in the pulpit, and practice as a professor of medicine. He has mingled much with men, under favorable circumstances, and gained a good practical knowledge respecting "the ways of the world." In a successful canvass for the

tem, so extensively and in more sen one exhaustively discussed, forms only a part in the newspaper press. The laws which Congress or a State Legis.

lature makes touch us at only a few points, and it is quite possible that a peaceable man may pass a lifetime without being brought into direct relations with them, or even being aware of the existence of the vast majority of them. But the unwritten laws of social custom form a web which envelops us all, of both sexes, from the cradle to the grave, and which is quite as stringent and immeasurably more important than the shackles of statutory injunction or prohibition. Yet, led by a foolish tradition, journalism, which ought to be the abstract and brief chronicle of the time in every way, devotes itself to harping exclusively upon measures of legislation which have no other efficiency than what they derive from being the mere registration of public opinion, and leaves untilled the vast field of society. Hence their readers are confined to one sex, and an addiction to newspapers on the part of a woman afflicts us with a sense of incongruity and masculinity. She is remitted to the novel for what interests her, while her husband finds his pabulum in the newspaper. It is absurd that this should be so, and it is certain that it is so. And no wonder, while the woman finds in the novel what she would look for in vain in the newspaper-statements and opinions upon topics which really concern her life, and in which she can take a rational interest. And even a man's interest in a newspaper is languid compared to what it would be if one topic of a limited human interest were not treated so as to exclude from the majority of newspapers, or at least to crowd into a subordinacy ridiculously below their rightful pre-eminence, topics of universal human interest. There is no more fondness for Action, at least theoretically, in the female than in the male beast. It is not because the novel is a fiction that women resort to it, but because it is to them less fictitious, more pertinent, and more interesting than the newspaper. Mr. Bonner's Ledger is read by women for its love-stories. If those stories were true instead of false, and told of the man in the next street instead of the man in the clouds, and told every day instead of once a week-would the interest be less or greater ? It is astonishing-the lack of intel-ligence which has characterized the conduct of journalism everywhere on this point. Why should some beings devote themselves to getting up new thunder about things as tedious as a twice-told tale, when there are tales never told once waiting to be told, and have the moral drawn from them ? Unluckily, what journals there are devoted to such themes have the misfortune to be conducted by blockheads and blackguards who confine social relations-we don't refer to the Chicago Tribune-to acts of "seduction, adultery, or rape;" who, by metonymy from themselves to the universe, confound filth—that is, what interests them—with "sensation"—that is, what interests everybody—and try to escape dullness by sedulously avoiding decency. Such papers as they produce, no self-respect-ing man and no decent woman can take pleasure in. But the journal of the future will be a newspaper in which all men and women can take an honest interest, and from

reterans of the war, who have few friends and few votes at their command ? MR. SEWARD'S ITINERARY.

From the N. Y. Tribune. Our non-commissioned ambassador will be home before a great while. He will come to us fresh from the enforced hospitalities of the negro-traders in Cuba, or he will bring us word of what the good folks of another island are doing in the name of liberty and annexation. To drop in upon his old friend Baez, and to visit his ruffled neighbor Saget, would be quite in order. An amiable looking into Haytien or other affairs would be altogether in keeping with Mr. Seward's character as an inquisitive peace-maker, as the soother and smoother of the wrinkled front of grim-visaged revolution.

In the short journey which Mr. Seward made through Mexico, he may have seen that picturesque country rather more in the light of her favoring suns than of her lurid revolutions. Clear skies with innumerable mountains to rest upon; all nature disposed to be a picture and to be looked at; all men ready to be his entertainers, may have seduced Mr. Seward to a charming oblivion of the distressing apology which so many actualities in Mexico are to their pretensions and surroundings. A much exaggerated country in more than one respect, it is both better and worse, no doubt, than it seems. But its revolutions almost surpass calculation, and its pronunciamentos are certainly more common than shocks of earthquake. When our wander-ing philosopher saw the schools of Guadalajara, he loudly wondered why any one should talk of protecting a people so perfectly able to take care of themselves. Here was illusion number one, but not altogether an illusion. The Mexicans are dread-fully self-protective, as their innumerable pronunciamentos attest, and this is precisely what ails them. Could they obey Mr. Juarez, the first long-enduring President they have ever had, it would be better for them, argue one class of reasoners; but then they must protect themselves even from Mr. Juarez. Could Mr. Juarez have refrained from shooting Maximilian and authorizing the murder of Governor Patoni, it might have been better for him, argue another class of observers. In Spanish-American questions, much may be said against both sides. It is undonbtedly true that Mr. Juarez has presented the most able, the most hopeful. side of Mexican affairs; but short of believ-ing in a miracle, it is scarcely possible to believe that he will conduct his country to final peace. The murderer of Patoni, who declared that he committed a crime which his Government denounced by scaled orders of that Government, is still not brought to trial, though his fearful crime is more than a year old. That crime, unaccounted for, stains every act of Mr. Juarez, kills every hope for his country, and still places it before the world on trial for murder in the first degree.

Poor Mexico! Her fate has been a marvel of tribulation-we wish that her salvation might prove one of the miracles of Providence. Her children have gone, day after day, into strange lands, and learned strange language; but they are not half the aliens to themselves that their brothren are who deyour each other in fratricidal insurrections,

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