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PHILADELPHIA. The Price is three cents per copy (double sheef); or eighteen cents per week, payable to the carrier by whom served. The subscription price by mall is Nine Dollars per annum, or One Dollar and Fifty Cents for two months, invariably in advance for the time ordered.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1870.

INDEPENDENCE SQUARE.

An article in the Sunday Dispatch of yesterday contains quotations from acts of the old Colonial Assembly and the State Legislature which prove that a distinct understanding was established, more than a century ago, that the ground lying immediately south of the State House should remain "a public green and walk forever," and that this understanding has been repeatedly confirmed and reaffirmed by competent authorities. The Dispatch also directs attention to the remarkable fact that the city has no legal title whatever to two lots of ground in the centre of the Walnut street front of Independence Square, which are ninety-nine feet front by two hundred and fifty-five feet deep, running back one-half the distance of the square, and it alleges that "some day the heirs of the real owners may turn up." In the present state of public opinion, and

the absence of appropriations by Councils, would be totally wrong for the Building Commission to attempt to either cut down the trees on Independence Square or to lay the foundations of new buildings there, even if no legal difficulties arising from a defective title existed. In all justice and fairness, the people who are so deeply interested, and who are to foot the bill for the magnificent structures contemplated, should have an opportunity of saying where their money is to be expended. It would be an unpardonable outrage to take a snap judgment against them on this question, and to proceed to incur heavy debts in their name, before appropriations had been legally made. The Building Commission have gone to the verge of their power in awarding contracts, and it would be the height of folly and injustice to take a single additional step before their proceedings are fully and finally confirmed alike by Councils and the tacit or formal consent of the Legislature. Under the most favorable circumstances, it will be an extremely doubtful and dangerous proceeding to erect buildings in Independence Squar e in the face of the existing restrictions and in defiance of the absence of a clear title to a large portion of the land that will be occupied. And if any new movement is attempted, we hope the opponents of the Independence Square project will make prompt application for an injunction.

THE CASE OF LIEUTENANT-COM-MANDER SEELY.

One of the inconveniences of being a staff officer in the United States navy under the present condition of affairs is the liability of being court-martialled and punished for what ar to be heinous offenses against discipline in the eyes of the line officers, but which to the untutored eyes of civilians would seem to be highly meritorious actions. One of the advantages of being a line officer is the privilege of committing outrages that on shore would subject the offender to a term of years in the penitentiary, but which a naval court-martial only thinks worthy of a nominal punishment. The difference between the status of the line and staff in this respect is fully exemplified in the cases of Assistant Surgeon Charles L. Greene and Lieutenant-Commander Henry B. Seely. Dr. Greene declined to take from the sick list the name of a man whom he considered unfit for duty, when ordered to do so by his commanding officer. For this he was tried by a courtmartial last August, and sentenced to be suspended from rank, on furlough pay, for two years, and to be publicly reprimanded by the Honorable Secretary of the Navy. The Honorable Secretary of the Navy tacitly acknowledged the injustice of this finding of the court, while confirming it, by remitting the major part of the sentence, and simply giving Dr. Greene a mild reprimand. The upshot of the affair was that Dr. Greene promptly resigned his commission as an Assistant Surgeon in the United States navy, as any man with the instincts of a gentleman would have done under the same circum-

Lieutenant-Commander Seely was tried last September for permitting the infliction of unlawful and cruel punishments and tortures upon the persons of certain seamen under his command as executive officer of the Pawnee, and also for falsely representing the facts of the case to the commander of the vessel. For this little irregularity Mr. Seely was found guilty, and the severest sentence that the Secretary of the Navy could extort from the court by sending its findings back to it several times for revision, was that Lieutenant-Commander Seely should be suspended from duty for four years on furlough pay, with loss of rank for that time, and be publicly reprimanded by the Honorable Secretary of the Navy. The Honorable Secretary of the Navy confirms this "inadequate" sentence because otherwise Lieutenant-Commander Seely would escape all punishment.

These two cases need no comment, as they speak plainly for themselves, and illustrate perfeetly the difference that exists between the line and staff officers, a difference that the latter are endeavoring to have equalized by asking Congress to grant them positive rank which will place them in some measure on an equality with the men who now domineer over them. Both of these sentences were outrages that deserve emphatic condemnation, and in the case of Seely, especially, justice has not been done, and will not be done unless he is dismissed from the service he lakes, until 1849, when, at the age of sixty, he !

has disgraced and made to serve out a term | Evening Telegraph in the penitentiary besides. Discipline must be maintained on board men-of-war, but the laws prohibiting cruel punishments are stringent, and some measures more efficient than courts-martial should be adopted for their enforcement, and for the protection of the sailors. The officers of the court that imposed this absurd sentence on Mr. Seely became participants in his crime by not punishing him as he deserved, and the reprimand to all parties concerned given in the general order published on Saturday is far from being an adequate condemnation of the outrage.

> THE HEART OF SUSAN B. ANTHONY WAS made to leap with joy-to use an expression that is highly figurative when applied to the heart of such a staid and venerable female-by the announcement that a proposition to submit to the people of Minnesota a woman's suffrage constitutional amendment had passed one branch of the Legislature. But the joyous capers of Miss Susan's vital organ were destined to be of very short duration. The full phraseology of the proposed amendment has fallen under Susan's eyes, and she has been horrified by learning that the women's ballots shall not be deposited in the same boxes as the men's! It is scarcely possible that there could have happened anything which would contribute so much towards strengthening Susan's deliberate opinion that men, as a class, are not only indisposed to do justice to women, but morally and intellectually incapable of so doing, even if they were so disposed. But the worst of it is that Susan's own conscience is not altogether at ease in the matter. She some time since fulminated a pronunciamento against a certain domestic arrangement which has been in vogue ever since men and women were first given in marriage to each other; and now she discovers with dismay that her teachings have not been altogether in vain, and that, although the lawmakers of Minnesota are not yet disposed to decree that it is not exactly the thing for a man and his wife to repose beneath the same coverlet, it is manifestly improper for their ballots to nestle together in the same eigar-box.

THE BEDFORD STREET MISSION, as we have often insisted, is doing a good work, and doing it as well as possible with the means at its command. Yet it is always in straitened circumstances, a ready means for outlay being found for every cent that finds its way into its treasury. On general principles, we are opposed to the State steeping outside of its legitimate sphere by contributing to the support of charitable institutions of any kind, but there are exceptional cases, in which the people's money can accomplish infinitely more good in this way than in almost any other. In the general appropriation bill, recently reported to the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, a few worthy institutions are set down for sums varying between \$1000 and \$5000. The name of the Bedford Street Mission is not included in the list, as it should be. We trust that some member of the House who is familiar with the condition of this section of Philadelphia, and can appreciate both the necessities of the Mission and the good results that flow from its labors, will at the proper time secure an amendment to the bill placing this worthy charity on a footing of equality with those already named in the bill.

THE TIME FOR AMNESTY .- The Lynchburg Virginian presents the following forcible argument for the favorable action of Congress on the subject of universal amnesty, without delay:-"The Southern States are just now reorganizing the various departments of their government, under constitutions that have been accepted by Congress, and which provide effectual guarantees against any reversal of the public judgment pronounced in their acceptance. Besides, Congress has reserved to itself the right, asserted by Mr. Morton in the Senate, if the States should prove faithless to their obligations, 'to deal with them hereafter.' What more can be necessary? But, as we have said, the States are now re organizing ail of these departments, and judicial officers are to be elected for a long term of years. This being the fact, and it being necessary that the people should have the largest possible field of selection, it is important that Congress should do whatever it may intend to do speedily. It should, by a general law, relieve all disabilities, so that the best talents and the largest experience to be found in the States may be made available to the people. This is the opportune moment, and the healing measure can be applied with more advantage to the Southern communities now than at any time in the future. Six months, or even three months hence, it will come too late to serve the beneficent ends that might be accomplished by the application of such a measure now."

OBITUARY.

Commodore Stephen Champlin, U. S. N Following close upon the death of "Old Iron sides" comes the announcement that another of the heroes of our early naval history has breathed his last. Commodore Stephen Champlin, the last surviving officer who participated in the battle of Lake Eric, died at Buffalo, N. Y., on Saturday, at the venerable age of eighty. He was born at South Klugston, Rhode Island, on the 17th of November, 1789. His father had been a Revolutionary soldier, but his mother was a sister of Gommodore Perry's father, and he selected the sea for the scene of his career, becoming a sallor at the age of sixteen. At the age of twenty-two he had already become the captain of a merhant vessel. The war of 1812 diverted him from his peaceful calling, and on the 22d of May, in that year, he was appointed a sailing master in the United States Navy, under Commodore Perry, and soon after was placed in command of a gunboat at Newport. He was subsequently transferred to the Lake Erie squadron, and in the celebrated battle off Putin-Bay, on the 10th of September, 1813, commanded the schooner Scorpion, which led the advance of the American line and fired the first and last shot on that memorable occasion. Salling Master Champlin was among the officers commended by Commodore Perry in his official report of the action. The supremacy of the United States being fully established on Lake Erie by the results of this battle, the deceased was ordered to the scene of active hostilities on the upper lakes, and was once taken prisoner by the British, after sustaining a severe wound, from the effects of which he never fully recovered. At the close of the war he was placed in command of the Porcupine, and remained in active service, holding various commands on the

was placed on the reserved list, with full pay. The Scorpion bore two long guns, one carrying a 32-pound shot, and the other a 12-pound shot. When the British and American fleets sucountered each other, about noon, the Scorpion flanked the Lawrence, Perry's flagship, upon the left. Barclay, the British commander, opened the battle with a shot from his flagship, which, falling short on account of the distance, was answered by a shot from the Scorpion, and the battle soon became general. Champlin maintained his throughout the entire engagement near the Lawrence, which, riddled with shot, was abandoned by Perry early in the fight. When all the other British vessels had struck their colors, two of them, the Little Belt and the Chippewa, attempted to escape, but they were pursued by the Scorpion and the Trippe, and at ten o'clock at night the final shot of the engagement was fired by the Scorpion, in answer to which the Little Belt capitalated and the battle was at an end.

Champlin was placed after the battle in command of two of the captured vessels, and in the spring of 1814, in command of the Tigress, with Captain Turner in the Scorpion, he blocksded the port of Mackinac, and afterwards cruised about the upper lakes for some months, cutting off the supplies of the enemy. In September, 1814, a party of British and Indians were seat from Mackinac in five boats to raise the clockade. The enemy surprised the Tigress and the Scorpion on the 2d ofSeptember, falling upon the former first about 9 o'clock in the evening. The darkness was so impenetrable that the enemy were within fifty yards of Champlin's vessel before they were discovered. The attacking party numbered one hundred men, while Champlin's force numbered but thirty, and, although he received them with a heavy broadside, his vessel was quickly boarded and captured. Every officer on the Tigris was wounded, Champlin so severely by a cannister-shot that he never fully recovered from its effects.

In the year 1816, after the close of the war and his release from captivity, Champlin was placed in command of the Porcupine, his wound, however, incapacitating him from much active service. In 1845 he was ordered to the steamer Michigan, and made his last cruise in March, 1848, when he was placed on the retired list, with full pay. On the establishment of the higher ranks in the navy, after the outbreak of the Rebellion, he received a commodore's commission, being the ninth in order on the retired

-At last, after full and protracted delibera-tion and consultation, President Angell, of the University of Vermont, has declined the Presidency of Michigan University. The Burlington Feee Press makes the announcement by authority and in italies. We trust, therefore, the matter is now settled.

-At a religious meeting at Allanburg, Canada, on Sunday night week, an old man arose, and calmly said he had but a short time to stay, and was determined to live in such a manner as to secure an entrance to heaven. He sat down, but in a few minutes again arose apparently ill. A friend near him caught him as he was falling, and in a few minutes he died.

SPECIAL NOTICES. For additional Special Notices see the Inside Pages, FINEST GBNTS

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WEST SPRUCE STREET CHURCH SEVENTEENTH and SPRUOK Streets - There will be special agryices every evening this week in the Lecture Room. Prayer meeting at 7% o'clook; preaching at 8 o'clock. at 80 clock.

Sermon on Monday by Rev. J. L. WITHROW; Tuesday, Kev. Dr. WisWELL; Wednesday, ...; Thursday, Rev. Dr. HERRICK JOHNSON; and Friday, Rev. h. M. PATTERSON.

The public cordially invited. 2215t\*

RIGHT REV. BISHOP HUNTINDON recommends MURDOCH'S BRONGHIA'. COM-FITS to all clergymen suffering from weak or diseased organs of the voice. They are for sale by all drug-gists.

BETHEL SUNDAY SCHOOL OF THE
A. M. E. CHURCH.—The PILGRIM, with all its
Grand Combinations, will be exhibited on TUESDAY,
Feb.22,1870, at 8 o'clock, for the benefit of the school. [2 21 26

THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS. An adjourned Meeting of the Citizens of Philadelphia opposed to the erection of the Public Buildings on Independence Square—and in favor of the passage of the bill before the Legislature in favor of the site being designated by a vote of the citizens—will be held in the Hall N. W. corner MARKET and MERRICK Streets, on TUESDAY EVENING, the 22d inst, at 7% o'clock.

A. R. PAUL, of the Sixteenth Ward,

President

STEPHEN B. POULTERER, Secretary.

OFFICE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

NOTICE TO STOCK HOLDERS.

NOTICE TO STOCK HOLDERS.

The Annual Election for Directors will be held on MONDAY, the 7th day of March, 1870, at the Office of the Company, No. 288 South THIBD Street. The polls will be
open from 16 o'clock A. M. until 6 o'clock P. M.

No share or shares transferred within sixty days preceding the election will entitle the holder or holders
thereof to vote.

OFFICE RECEIVER OF TAXES.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15, 1870

NOTICE—In consequence of the confusion incident to the change in the administration of this department, under the decision of the Supreme Court in the contested election case, it has been determined, with the indorsement of the Finance Committee of Councils, to open the duplicates for the reception of the City and State Taxes for the year 1870, on MONDAY next, February 21.

215 6t

Receiver of Taxes.

OFFICE OF THE DIAMOND COAL COMPANY, No. 309 WALNUT Street.
DIVIDEND NOTICE.
The Directors have declared a dividend of ONE DOLLAR per chare, payable on and after the 21st inst.
2 15 3t\*
S. ALTER, Secretary.

FOR COLLECTIONS—CLAIMS OVER ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, FIVE PER CENT: 246#

AUSTRALIAN AND ALASKA DIAMONDS, MOSS AGATES, and all the latest styles
of Pashionable Jewelry, at low prices.
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idt, near Argh. G. G. RYANS.

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21764.
No. 394 SPRING GARDEN Street.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

BOF FRIENDS OF TEMPERANCE.

GRAND TEMPERANCE CELEBRATION

ON WASHINGT IN'S BIRTHDAY, TUESDAY, FERRUARY 23, 1870.

(AFTERNOON AND EVENING),

AT HORTICULTURAL HALL

ALL FRIENDS OF TEMPERANCE EARNESTLY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

AFTERNOON MEETINGS. At 3 o'clock P. M., a meeting for adults will be held in e main audience room. President WM. H. ALLEN LL. D., of Girard College, will preside.

The Cadets of Temperance, Cadets of Honor and Tem

perance, and other male Juvenile Temperance Organiza-tions, will meet in the hall upon the first floor. The Bands of Hope and Sabbath School Children will assemble in the second-story front room.

EVENING MEETINGS. The meetings in the evening will assemble at 8 o'clock Hon. Jos. Allison will preside in the main audience room. The following eminent advocates of total abetimence will be present and address the meeting:-

REV. DR. A. A. WILLITS, JOHN R. SYPHER, REV. JOHN CHAMBERS. REV. J. HENRY SMYTHE, B. F. DENNISON, GEORGE H. HICK, REV. W. O. BEST, HON. S. B. RANSOM, of N. J., REV. PETER STRYKER, EDWIN H. COATES, DR. HERRICK JOHNSON, REV. DR. BROOKS, JOHN WANAMAKER, REV. ANTHONY ATWOOD, JOHN SHEDDEN.

nbers of the orders of Sons of Temperance,
Temple of Honor and Temperance,
I. O. of Good Templars,
Knights of Temperance,
Cadets of Temperance, Cadets of Honor and Temperance And Bands of Hope,

Are invited to be present in regalia, The famous Juvenile Band, from Girard College, will be present afternoon and evening.

Members of the Grand and National Bodies of the above organizations, and the members of the general and sub-committees, will be provided with seats upon the

Let there be a grand outpouring of all friends of tem perance, irrespective of organization or party, to make this a glerious celebration, and one long to be remem bered for the enward movement given to the cause of

Arrangements have been make to accommodate all. The three large rooms at Horticultural Hall have been secured, and if required the churches in the vicinity will be opened. Priends of temperance, attend on masse.

By order of the Committee of Arrangements. WILLIAM W. AXE, Chairman.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC. THE STAR COURSE OF LECTURES.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS. On THURSDAY EVENING, February 2'. Subject-"Our National Folly-The Civil Service." PROF. HENRY MORTON, On MONDAY EVENING, February 28, Subject-"Solar Eclipses."

BAYARD TAYLOR, March 3, Subject—"Reform and Art." JOHN G. SAXE, March 31. PROF. ROBERT E. ROGERS, March 24. Subject—"Chemical Forces in Nature and the Arts." ANNA E. DICKINSON, April 7. Subject-"Down Brakes."

Admission to each Lecture, 50 cents; Reserved Seats, 73 Tickets to any of the Lectures for sale at Gould's Piano Rooms, No. 923 CHESNUT Street, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. Doors open at 7. Lecture at 8. HORACE GREELEY

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, TUESDAY EVENING, Feb. 22, Subject-'THE WOMAN QUESTION.' Reserved Seats, 75 cents. Admission and Stage

Tickets, 50 cents. Reserved Seats in Family Circle, 53 cents. 2 11 13 14 17 18 19 21 22 A LECTURE ON THE

"HOLY LAND" will be delivered by
MR. WILLIAM H. FLEMING,
in Boardman Chapel, BROAD and REED Streets,
on TUESDAY EVENING, Feb. 22, 1879,
2 21 212,
Tickets, 15 cts.—Proceeds for the Library of the School.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA. LECTURES ON SOCIAL SCIENCE.

Professor McILVAINE will deliver his Third Lecture on TUESDAY EVENING next, at 8 o'clock, and the remaining Lectures will be given on Tuesday of each week, instead of Wednesday.

2 19 2t

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

ALL THE NEW BOOKS

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PERSONAL CARD.—MY OLD GALLERY HAVING BEEN taken by other parties for a short time for the sale of Paintings, I would state that I am not connected with that place in any way. My Gallery is located at No. 1117 CHESNUT Street, Girard Row.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING RELIN duished the Heating of Buildings by Steam or Water it will be continued by WILILAM H. WISTAR, lately superintending that department of their business whom they recommend to their 'riends' Nov. 19, 1869.

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2000 yards 6-4 Elegant French Muslin, 38 and 45 sort 50 cents in gold.

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50 dozen Gents' All-linen Hemstitched Handkerchi

New 1.t of Hamburg Edgings and Insertings. 500 dozen New Style Linea Collars and Ouffs. New Point and Point Applique Collars.
New Thread Collars.
Turkey Red Napkins, and fine cloth.
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