

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

A REVENUE TARIFF.

Nearly every Democrat in Congress voted yesterday against the following resolution: "Resolved, That the interests of the country require such a tariff for revenue upon foreign imports as will afford incidental protection to domestic manufacturers, and as will, without impairing the revenue, impose the least burden upon and best promote and encourage the great industrial interests of the country."

This resolution was copied verbatim from the Democratic platform of 1868, and it does not enunciate a single idea that has not been incorporated in all the National Democratic platforms of the last quarter of a century for the purpose of deceiving and carrying Pennsylvania in Presidential elections. And yet, when the resolution was introduced into the House, the sagacious Democratic statesman of that body, who prate so much about principle and platforms, did not recognize a stereotyped clause of their own avowed creed, and in their eagerness to maintain the ultra free-trade ideas which they sincerely cherish, they voted squarely against the "incidental protection" they have hitherto pretended to favor.

By this vote they avow their hostility to every form of aid to American industry. Even when it can be granted without detriment to tax-payers, or loss to the revenue, they wish it to be withheld. They wish the tariff to be treated solely as a means of raising revenue, and when in adjusting it a preference can be shown between American and foreign manufactures, they wish to promote the interests of the latter at the expense of the former.

For once they gave a sincere expression to their true principles, and apprised the people in terms that cannot be explained away or misunderstood that they intend, as far as it is in their power, to confine American energy to agricultural pursuits, making the citizens of this country all cultivators of the soil or merchants, and completely re-establishing the old industrial vassalage of this nation to foreign manufacturers.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF NAVAL COMMANDERS.

In commenting some days ago upon the case of Lieutenant-Commander Seely, who was court-martialed for cruelty practiced upon certain seamen on board of the United States steamer Pawnee, of which he was executive officer, we made a comparison with the case of Surgeon Greene, who was most unjustly found guilty and severely sentenced because he declined to declare a sick man well when ordered to do so by his commanding officer. The judgment of the court that tried Dr. Greene was that he should be suspended from rank on furlough pay for two years, and be publicly reprimanded by the Secretary of the Navy. In the case of Seely, the Secretary sent back the sentence of the court for revision several times, on the ground that it was not severe enough, and the utmost that he was able to extort was a sentence of suspension from duty, on furlough pay, for four years, with a public reprimand from the Secretary. The Secretary was obliged to confirm this sentence, or else allow Seely to go unpunished. The Washington (D. C.) Republican quotes our article, and in its editorial endorsement of the opinions advanced by us with regard to this outrageous perversion of justice, it gives a piece of information that was not in our possession when we wrote. The Republican says, referring to the article in THE EVENING TELEGRAPH:—"These views are fully in accord with the opinions already expressed in the columns of the Republican, and the case is the more remarkable for the reason that the first sentence of the court, for which the proceedings were sent back by the Secretary of the Navy, was identical to the one that found the remarkable court that sent in judgment on Dr. Greene's case, showing that in the opinion of the line officers who composed these courts the same punishment is due to a line officer who tortures men by cruel punishments and to a medical officer who endeavors to protect them. But a more important question arises here. What is the duty and responsibility of a commanding officer in the United States navy? Why is not the captain of the States Pawnee even censured for permitting such cruelties in his command? Do naval officers mean when they talk about the authority and supremacy of the 'executive officer' that he shall have unlimited power over all on board ship, to the exclusion of the responsibility of the commanding officer? Why is not Captain Clitz held accountable for these wrongs as well as his subordinates? Without professing to decide in such high concerns as naval usage and discipline, we are decidedly of the opinion that the staff officers of the navy are right in declaring that the only responsible authority on board ship must be the commanding officer, if discipline is to be maintained with justice.

The query of the Republican with regard to the responsibility of Captain Clitz in this matter is very much to the point. Accord-

effect, but it would be no easy task to convince some of our school directors of this fact. If the authority to compel were committed to such men as in some of our school sections now manage public education, it would be impossible to force any but self-evident truths through their skulls. So, too, if the law is to be made rigid, we must at once spend by no means small sums of money in providing increased accommodations for our schools. Already these are too small by the space needed for about twenty-five hundred children waiting anxiously for admittance. In Philadelphia able just now to provide for twenty thousand others who by this law would have to attend school for six months in each year? The proposition, then, is one that may well be postponed, at least for more perfect consideration than seems to have yet been given it.

It is a noteworthy fact that the movement in Congress for the expulsion of members guilty of corrupt practices commences at the time when the ratification of the fifteenth amendment substantially disposes of the questions connected with reconstruction. We trust that this is a favorable augury that now, since the Union is restored, and since negroes have obtained the right of suffrage, a grand effort is to be made to purify the executive and legislative branches of Government, and to restore an era of old-fashioned honesty and economy. If such be, indeed, the intention of the leading spirits of the nation, the people should hail it with joy.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

The plan recently proposed, to compel all children between certain ages to attend school, public or other, seems to us, though we recognize the truth of the principles on which it is based, to be impracticable, at least for the present. It is undoubtedly true that the integrity of our republican institutions, a high state of social purity, a minimum of crime of every sort, and the best good of the individual, are all most certainly assured by the education of our future citizens. If the next generation, or even a very large proportion of it, understands the fundamental truths on which our Government rests, the probability of any vital change is rendered very small. If the examples which history affords of the destruction of other free governments by official misdeeds and corruption are before the people, the latter will much less good-naturedly look on while their own servants squander and steal the public money. If a higher intellectual standard than now marks the people as a whole can be attained by them, immorality and crime must be diminished, since both vice and open violence to the laws of society spring from and live upon ignorance. And if the citizen be intelligent and informed, his own success and prosperity, whether professional man, merchant, mechanic, or laborer, are rendered the surer and the easier of attainment.

And yet, though to all these principles in the abstract, we, of course, yield assent (and there are few minds, perhaps, which would not), still, their results, when developed into practice, and especially as they concern this question of compulsory education, are grave enough to warrant much caution before our city commits itself to the proposed law. Society no doubt has the right to insure itself against impending evils as perfectly as it has the power to remove the evils when they exist. From this point of view, perhaps, it may be justified in compelling the adoption by its members of any measures for the prevention of crime that may be deemed necessary. But whether a society established upon the broad foundation of the greatest personal liberty consistent with civic existence and well-being may go aside to enact laws based upon general principles which are true in practice only after a great number of exceptions have been made—this, we think, is a question that certainly has two sides. In other words, ignorant men are not the only criminals, and the highest education sometimes leads directly into the grossest vices. Of course, the tendency of ignorance is to immorality, and that of education to virtue; but we doubt if ignorance is so fruitful a source of wrong-doing that Philadelphia will be justified in saying to her citizens who wish their sons to earn money at twelve years of age, "You must wait until they are sixteen." That in a vast majority of cases it would be better for the boys to wait the four years, does not affect the argument. It must be for an evidently sufficient cause, and for such a cause only, that the liberty of the citizen to direct his son's mode of life shall be curtailed. The statistical evidence is so clear before us, and the means so plain, that we are clear before us as to the authority that may be wielded by a free government.

INCREASED FACILITIES.

A Copy of the Bill to Increase the Judicial Force of Philadelphia—Two More Judges for the District Court and Another for the Common Pleas. On the 23d of February a meeting of the members of the Philadelphia Bar was held to take measures to secure the passage of a bill enlarging the number of judges of the Philadelphia court, and so giving increased facilities for the transaction of legal business which is now often delayed on account of the great amount. At that meeting a committee was appointed to draft a bill and go to Harrisburg, to aid by every means in their power the passing of the same by the Legislature. The bill has been drawn up, and a number of the members of the committee

will proceed to Harrisburg to-day. The following is a copy: An Act to provide for an increase of the number of Judges of the District Court and Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of Philadelphia.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

FINE HEAVY OVERCOATS. Fine Heavy Overcoats, suitable for this weather, at \$10.00.

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THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE members of the "Vessel Owners and Captains' Association."

SHATTERED CONSTITUTIONS RESTORED BY HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU.

GREAT BIBLE DEBATE.—REV. JOHN MOORE AND J. G. FISH, THIS EVENING, at the Hall, N. E. corner BROAD and ARCH STREETS.

THE GLORY OF MAN IS STRENGTH.

THE PARHAM SEWING MACHINE.

MANHOOD AND YOUTHFUL VIGOR.

HELMBOLD'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU.

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EYRE & LANDELL, FOURTH and ARCH Streets. SPRING STOCK NOW OPENING.

Cloths, Cassimeres, Cheviots, and Tweeds. Low Prices for Spring Cassimeres for Boys' Suits.

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TO BE EXHIBITED FOR A LIMITED PERIOD, COMMENCING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3.

T. B. PUUGH has the honor to announce that he has made arrangements for exhibiting for the benefit of the ARTISTS' UNION OF FINE ARTS.

GENERAL SHERIDAN from Winchester to Cedar Creek on the morning of October 19, 1864, was one of the most stirring scenes of our civil war.

UNITED LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA, and the following testimonials will show the estimation placed upon it in Rome, where it was completed.

ROME, December 7, 1868. FRIEND READ:—I have seen the picture of "Sheridan's Ride," and I am glad to see that you have so well represented the life and death of our hero.

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11 Days HAVN ARRIVED. LOOKING GLASSES, ETC.

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Ever thankful for the patronage extended him heretofore, and desirous of further favors, begs to announce his SPRING STYLES OF BOOTS and SHOES for Gents' and Boys' wear.

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TO LET—THE STORE PROPERTY NO. 722 Chestnut street, twenty-five feet front, one han dred and forty-five feet deep to Bennett street. Back buildings five stories high. Possession May 1, 1870. Ad dress THOMAS S. FLETCHER, 12 1/2 1/2

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