Evenimg ©elegraph "

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## THE HOUSE OF GORREOTION-LIEI THE LKGISLATURE UNDO ITS BABEL WORK

 WIEs the future historian of Philadelpthindeegribes the action of the present greneration
in reference to a House of Correction, what a in reference to a House of Correction, what a
fearful pioture of vacillation and incompe-
tenoy will he present! Sixteen years ago an tency will he present! Sixteen years ago an
aot providing for the establishment of such an institution was passed by the Legislature,
and the subjeot has been continually agitited ever sinnee, evory day incroasing the manifost
necessity for its construction. And yet the
mudde in which this projeot is involved muddle in which this projeot is involved
seems to grow deeper and deper with ench
new demonstration of the importance of its sucoess. The underlying reason
dififitilies is the question of locatio contemplated structure. The trouble doss
not arise from the pancity of proposed sites
but from their superabundance, and this $t$ rouble is intonsified by the anxiety of one
set of interested parties to prevent the House
 an abundance of land, but its right to use its
own property has bean ceriecussribed by the
Legislature, with the apparent intent of oroing it to become a roal estate purohaser
for the special benefit of some one of a dozen
knots of speculators. When the House of knotr of speculintors. When the House of
Correction was first talked of the Almshouse
farm was fixed by law as the proper location. adjacent property owners, and it was (ot
unwisely) defeated, first, by the recommend tions of the committee which originally had
the subject in oharge, and, second, by a legisfrive onaetmeny wroperty in the ward in
from nsing any
which the Almshouse is located as a House of Correotion. After some years the grounds
adjacent to Moyamonsing Prison rose into
favor, and this is, above all otisers, the propar favor, and this is, above all others, the propar
site, or, indeed, the only eoonomical and ap.
propriate one. Three acres of fand are avail.
able, affording ample room, with proper able, affording ample room, with propor
architectural arrangements, for the confine ment and employment of all our prisoners,
vagrants, able-bodied panpers, drukakids,
and disorderly persoons for years to come. Thousands of men can be set and kept at
work in the space therein furnished, and
some of the largest and most thickly-popasome of the largest and most inched ehanater do
lated institation of a kind
not possess more room than the city has at net possess mon the grounds adjacent to the
her disposal on then This is he only project that
County Prison. ever reecived a hearty and thorongh endorse.
ment, and the only one yot presented which
should be adopted. It is recommended in the strongest terms by the Boird of Prisoa
Inspectors, a body of men who, abovo all
others, best understand this subjeet, and
act from enlightened and disinterestes

## a joint committee of Councils which had thoroughly examined this whold ssbbject. Nor did the favorable and propitious action stop

 here. Councils authorized a loan of one huudred thousand dollars to buildings on the site which had thas beon
warmly approved; 8 o that, as the city pra
sessed the land and the money to erocet the sessed the land and he, money to eroct
building was provide, the whole qusti
of a Honse of Correction was on the point reaching a satisfactory solution. The oul
thing neeeded was an aet of the Legislatar
anthorizing our eitizens to do what, after mature consideration, competent offoials han
decied to be the best thing that coollit b
done in the matter. But a suparlatlvely stin pid and iniquitous piece of legislativ
botohery was perpetrated at this mounan
Instend of conferring the priviloge asked f Instend of conferring the priviloge asted for
the Legislature passed a law provibiting the
people of Philadelphat from oonstrast-
ing a House of Correction and絃路

## action on the whole subject was delayed aul prevented by this outragoous procoeding. I our citizens had been represented at Hurris.

 burg by men who posseasof intelligence, honesty, welfare, such an infamons alrendy oost Philadelphia hundreds of sands of dollars, and it has stimulated an
mense amount of crime and pauperism tis not repealed it will and pauperism anstil the whole city swirms with them;
the burdens of tax-payers will be incre. the burdens of tax-payers will bo increasa
to an incaloulable extent by th
damging commision and omision
driveling
degislators. Councils, deprive of the power of doing what their better jnd
ment favored, were naturally thrown back ment favored, were naturally thrown back
upon a series of expedienta none of whic farce of chasing up nites should cease.
the Legislature heed the request mailo in last report of the Prison Inspeators, gi
them the enabling aat they ask for, and th let Councils oxtend tho Moyamensing Priso provide the necossary means. The whol
question is exceediagly simple if the Legi lature, for once, treats our oitizens with jus
tice, and not as the objects of legislative
speculation. The Harrisburg Solons have only to undo their own Babel work.
 have been received expressly undere protest,
such cages may form exceptions to the rule such cases may form excoptions to the rale
according to the phraseology of each case,
though whether the only available "protest" may not
be held to be a refusal to accopt. In ninety-
nine out of every hundred coases, however,
payment was made and nccepted withoat any thought on either side of any "protest," or of
any decision such as the court has made. In
all such casest the quastion is closed.
Arrxe all, commend us to a Now York
Deputy Sheriff for a displny of peeuliar fit. ness for office. The papers of our neigh-
boring city narrate at longth the adventures
of one such daring a journey from New York
to to Sing Sing in charge of four convicts whose
united sentences spanned seventaen years.
The deputy was crazy drunk The depaty was crazy drunk - so crazy drank
that justice was within an ace of being
cheated out of seventeen yoars of hard labor
by way of recomponse for outraged law.
This model deputy was not content with get.ting drunk himself, but marched his prisonors
into a saloon and set their wits afloat in
whisky, as well as his own and then, for fear
that either himself or some one of his mana--
cled companions might by ohance drawes abs breath before the end of the journey was
reached, filled a pooket flask, and the tedium
of travel was rolieved by its frequant elova-
tion all around. When the party arrived at
Sing Sing sing, the depaty had sank into such a
drunkens stupor that he could be aroused only
by a vigorod far towards proving that what little esense he he
had left was located in those orgns. That
the four convicts did not make good their oppo
watc)
the d

 that ever was launohed. The loss of a man
with such a spiritit is one that no servioe couid
well afford to sustann, and the country will
lament it with as mach feeling as if Captain
Eyre, of the Bomber

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { pirate in name as well as in tact. } \\
& \text { Poos Prours:-To-day the people of } \\
& \text { Peoria are to be forced to listen to harangues }
\end{aligned}
$$

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