# Evening Telegraph

(SUNDAYS EXCEPTED). AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH BUILDING. No. 108 S. THIRD STREET. PHILADELPHIA.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1870.

THE EVENING TELEGRAPH, from its original establishment, has been in the receipt of telegraphic news from the New York Associated Press, which consists of the Tribune, Times, Herald, World, Sun, Journal of Commerce, Evening Post, Commercial Advertiser, and Evening Express. The success which has attended our enterprise is, in itself, a sufficient evidence of the freshness, fullness, and reliability of the news which we have received from this source. We have now entered into a special contract by which THE EVENING TELEGRAPH has the exclusive use of the news furnished in the afternoon by the Associated Press to its own members, the North American, Inquirer, Ledger, Press, Age and German Democrat, of this city, and the leading journals of the East, North, West and South; and hereafter THE TELEGRAPH will be the only evening paper published in this city in which the afternoon despatches of the Associated Press will appear.

THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS-INDE PENDENCE SQUARE.

THE State Senate yesterday, by a vote of 28 ayes to I nay, passed the House bill to authorize the people of Philadelphia to fix upon a site for the public buildings in October next, but with a proviso that Independence Square shall not be voted for. The Senate also passed, by a vote of 26 ayes to 3 nays, the House bill prohibiting the erection of the public buildings in Independence Square. There will undoubtedly be a great pressure brought to bear upon the Governor by property holders in the neighborhood of Independence Square to induce him to withhold his signature from these bills, but it is sincerely to be hoped that he will have the firmness and courage to do his obvious duty in the matter by giving his assent forthwith, and thereby extend to Independence Square all the protection that can be afforded by the laws of the State. We have hitherto advocated the plan proposed for submitting this whole matter to a vote of the citizens of Philadelphia, confident that a very large majority would be found opposed in a most decided manner to the desecration of the square and Independence Hall by having them obstructed and overshadowed by a mass of new and showy buildings, especially as there is at least one place better adapted in every way for the purposes of the city. We are, however, much better satisfied with the action of the Legislature in removing Independence Square altogether out of the field of controversy.

The people of Philadelphia are not the only ones who have a right to be consulted on this subject, and it might happen that there would be enough voters in October next who would be unable to appreciate the importance, from a purely patriotic standpoint, of the question submitted for their action, to sanction the contemplated incumbrance of Independence Square, in spite of all the arguments that could be urged against it. We do not think any such result would ensue within the range of erdinary probabilities, but for the sake of the argument we may presume it to be possible. The question therefore ought not to be left entirely to the decision of the people of Philadelphia. Independence Hall is a national edifice and Independence Square is national ground. Not merely Philadelphians but the people of the State of Pennsylvania and the whole United States are interested in preserving such a monument as Independence Hall inviolable, and the erection of the proposed pile of public buildings upon the square would be an outrage upon the whole American people that would deservedly disgrace Philadelphia. If there were no other available spot upon which to locate the municipal buildings that we undoubtedly so badly need, there might be a shadow of an excuse for the appropriation of this sacred ground. But in the four squares at the intersection of Broad and Market streets we have more than enough ground for all our requirements-ground, too, that from the very foundation of the city was set apart for this very purpose. This location is rapidly becoming the business centre of the city, and with the four squares thrown into one, and a broad roadway around them, Philadelphia will have a site for her public buildings that will be imposing, appropriate, and in all respects unsurpassed by any other city in the United States.

The whole opposition to the project for the location of the municipal buildings at Penn Square comes from property owners in the neighborhood of Independence Square. It is well for the Governor to consider that all the newspapers that have been advocating in season and out of season the Independence Square project have their offices in that vicinity, while THE EVENING TELEGRAPH and the other journals located about Third street. and removed from both the rival sites, have earnestly protested against the proposed desecration. We are able to decide in this matter impartially and disinterestedly, and we claim that our opinions are entitled to greater weight than those of our contemporaries who cannot conceal their anxiety to accomplish a personal advantage.

Independently of every other consideration, it should be borne in mind that Independence Square is too small to accommodate a structure of the necessary size, so as

the design adopted by the commission to see how utterly absurd will be the appearance of Independence Hall when surrounded on all sides by a large marble or granite structure, with its ornate cornices, pillars, pilasters, and fanciful Mansard roof.

Scarcely less objectionable than the Independence-Square project is the idea of appropriating Washington Square. Mr. Samuel Josephs a few days ago introduced a bill in the House for the appointment of a commission to erect the public buildings on this spot. It should be remembered that Washington Square was set apart, with three others, as a public park forever, and neither the Legislature nor the city has any right to use it for any purpose, unless under the pressure of a great and overpowering necessity. Such a necessity does not exist; and with the Penn Squares at our disposal it is scarcely worth while to consider any other proposition for a site, and the committee to which Mr. Josephs' bill was referred will do well to quietly drop it into their waste basket. WEEPING AND WAILING.

THE ways of the New York Democracy are mysterious, but they are not altogether past finding out. At the last election, they obtained complete control of the State Government, adding both branches of the Legislature to the departments already secured. Then came a grand outery from the slums of the "bloody Sixth" ward of New York city against the Albany commissions which for some years past have given the city the only semblance of decent government which it has enjoyed. The sachems of Tammany Hall took the lead in the raid against them, and promised the rough and ready element standing at their back that self-government should be restored to New York, which meant simply that the Metropolitan police system and every other creature of the preceding Republican Legislatures should be upset and Tammany Hall installed in their places. A ponderous bill was prepared which at one stroke obliterated all traces of the commission system, and placed the people of the city, bound hand and foot, in the power of Peter B. Sweeney and his "ring." But there was rebellion in the camp, and the World became the organ of the insurgents. It was shown by that journal that the proposed new city charter was simply an iniquitous conspiracy of the Sweeney "ring" against the taxpayers, and its iniquity was so glaring that, aided by the Republican members of the Legislature, the country Democrats nipped the conspiracy in the bud. Then a so-called compromise was patched up between the factions of the party, and still another draft of a charter, somewhat more temperate in its retrogressive "reforms," was the fruit of the truce. This, it was confidently believed, would triumphantly pass the ordeal of country disaffection, and Tammany Hall would still secure a fair measure of the spoils. But "monstrous treachery" again reared its head in the camp, and Sweeney has taken up the lamentation of "Gloucester:"-Can this be so:

That in alliance, amity, and oaths There should be found such false, dissembling

In the Assembly, yesterday afternoon, the country Democrats again joined hands with the Republicans, and the "compromise" city charter shared the fate of its forerunner, the bill for the reorganization of the Metropolitan police force being killed by the same blow which knocked in the head the other. The New York city Democracy are of course in a pitiable state. Tammany Hall is in a quandary, and its sachems know not which way to turn, nor whom to trust. The probabilities are that the Albany commissions will remain undisturbed for another year, and the chances are that, if this should be so, the Republicans will regain the control at the next election of at least one branch of the Legislature, and rescue permanently the taxpaying and law-abiding citizens of the metropolis from the threatened reign and ruin of Tammany Hall.

THE PROPOSED NEW TERRITORIAL

ACQUISITIONS. A DESPATCH from Washington states that the Senate Foreign Committee have agreed to report against the ratification of the St. Thomas and Samana Bay treaties; and the disposition thus evinced to prevent the nation from being entangled in any new land speculations will be cordially commended by the American people. The existing pressure of debt and taxation should never be lost sight of for a moment, and instead of seeking additional ways to spend the public money, the Executive as well as the legislative branches of the Government should ever be mindful of the paramount necessity of saving every dollar that can be saved. There is a fearful contrast between the old land purchases of the nation which, by their cheapness and utility, have become popular, and the speculative operations of modern administrations. Jefferson gave only three millions of dollars for the Louisiana purchase. which included hundreds of millions of acres of the most fertile land in the world, and which was worth, intrinsically, a thousand bleak Alaskas, or ten thousand little specks like St. Thomas. For California and the contiguous territories only a few millions were paid, and after yielding a gold product fifty times as great as its cost, it is now one of the most productive agricultural States of the Union, and its chief city is one of the most important of American ports. There were reason and profit in these transactions. We obtained a great deal of extremely valuable land, encumbered with but a small number of intractable inhabitants, for a very moderate sum, and the statesmen who conducted suck negotiations will be deservedly honored for making such good bargains for the American people. Their modern imitators, however, are distinguished mainly for the magnitude of the sums they propose to pay for comparatively or totally worthless territory. The first great fraud perpetrated was in the Gadsden purchase, by which about

gate of rocks and deserts on the face of the globe. The Alaska purchase was but one degree less iniquitously extravagant. The St. Thomas treaty, by which the nation was pledged to pay ten millions for a little rock in mid-ocean that is liable at any moment to be submerged by a volcanic convulsion or a tidal wave, was another gross outrage on American taxpayers. And now we have the Samana Bay treaty, by which the nation agrees to pay \$150,000 in gold per annum, or the interest of \$2,500,000, for fifty years, for the use of a West Indian harbor and coaling station. There may be a plausible naval excuse for this expenditure, and a probability that in certain contingencies it would be worth the money. But if we have been able to manage the navy in time of war without this bay, we think it quite possible that its use may be dispensed with for at least a few years longer, in time of peace.

The period has gone by when national greatness is either measured by or dependent upon the extent or the strategic value of foreign possessions. Great Britain has held Gibraltar for centuries, but if she had spent the money involved in holding it in the education of millions of her subjects who have been suffered to grow up in ignorance for want of appropriations to her public schools. she would be stronger to-day even in a military point of view than a hundred Gibraltars could make her. The time must come when all the West India islands that we can profitably use will be ours on our own terms, and without any material increase of the public burdens. No vital interest requires us now to hasten that period, and we have at home an abundant field for the exercise of all our energies, and for the expenditure of every dollar of public money that can be spared. We are glad that the spirit of economy is exercising an influence over the deliberations of the Senate, and we hope that that body will sustain the action of its Committee on Foreign Affairs.

THE INCOME TAX AGAIN. -There is no use in temporising with the income tax, or attempting to remedy this and that of the thousand and one absurd decisions of Commissioner Delano by a fresh act of Congress. The tax is arbitrary, oppressive, and inquisitorial to the last degree. It was submitted to only as a war measure, and the faith of the Government is piedged that it shall continue until the year 1870, "and no longer." The returns made in 1870 are to be the last, according to the law. The oppressive features of the law are such that they cannot be remedied, and the only remedy is to let the law expire. It has been submitted to under the belief and pledge that it should cease in 1870. THAT TIME HAS COME, and the people will hold their representatives in Congress to a strict account if they undertake to fasten this outrage upon them anew. This is the sentiment of the people without distinction of party.

WE are much gratified to learn that the Hon. Alexander G. Cattell, who has been kept out of his seat in the Senate for some time past by severe indisposition, has so far recovered his health as to be able to make his appearance again upon the floor of that body. The Washington Chronicle of yesterday morning refers to the occasion in the following appropriate terms:-

"The return of the Hon. A. G. Cattell to his post in the Senate yesterday was the signal for general congratulations on all sides of the Chamber. Few men have a greater hold upon the respect and esteem of his associates than the Senator from New Jersey, and his recent illness has been a source of deep regret. His appearance, therefore, with health partially restored, is a proper matter of congratula-tion from his colleagues, his constituents, and the country at large. Never were his sound judgment, vigorous mind, and unquestioned loyalty more needed in the councils of the country."

THE Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, which has been cut off from receiving the news of the Associated Press, and suffers accordingly in its contents and circulation, pronounces the said news very sour grapes indeed, yet republishes the same the day after all its readers had sucked the pulp of the same in THE EVENING TELEGRAPH, which is going up as the Bulletin is going down .- Editoria from the Y. Y. World of this morning.

PROFESSOR BLACKIE delivered a lecture at the Philosophical Institution at Edinburgh recently. The subject was "Aristotle; Politics; Education among the Athenians." "If Aristotle were to appear," the Professor remarked, "I would say to him. 'Mr. Aristotle, what is your opinion of the present political state of America and Great Britain?" regards America, Professor Blackie has no doubt Aristotle would say that the phase of democracy exhibited in New York was the worst possible form of government, and that an absolute despotism would be in many respects far better. As regards England. Aristotle would express great satisfaction with the present constitution of the country, as we now had it after the passing of the two last Reform bills-indeed, the Professor stated that Aristotle's satisfac tion would be entire if he could see any guarantee for the permanency of the Constitution, and that the just balance now existing between the different parties would not be destroyed. In the principles laid down by and carried out by the last Reform bill Aristotle would, however, see flagrant injustice, and the germs of a very perilous democracy-he would say that the bill legitimated numerical quality alone, and gave none, or the very smallest possible recogtion, to the other social potencies, such as property, intelligence, experience, character, station; that it was quite right to give representation to the laboring classes, but quite wrong to give no representation to intelligence and virtue when they happened to be, as they often were, in a noble minority. Aris totle, he thought, would also see a serious element of danger in the unequal distribution of property. and in the contrasts between the few rich and the many poor, as well as in the growth of luxury and the worship of mammon. The Pall Mall Gazette in discussing the lecture says :- "Professor Blackie did not inform his audience what Aristotle would think of the St. Pancras guardians, of Tipperary and Kickham, and the cab regulations-nor of Professor Blackie himself and his lecture; but he said quite enough to prove that Aristotle would have run the Duke of Richmond a close race for the conservative leadership in the House of Lords."

IN THE Paris Democratic of February 13 is a list of the penny subscriptions being collected in the provinces for the purposes of erecting a monument to Victor Noir. This list, called "Souscription Republicaine," is made up of the following curious entries inter alia:-A young Republican lady who commiserates the misfortune of Mdile, Aubenas (the flancee of the luckless journalist), fifty centimes; a Phalansterian or Fournierist, twenty centimes; five detenua politiques, a martyr of liberty and his workmen, one franc; an enemy of the Chassepot, a new Radical, a Republican widow, give ten centimes each. A young to give a proper effect to its architectural ten millions were paid for a strip of the most lady "who loves Bohemia and the life thereof" joins

decorations, and it only requires a glance at | barren, worthless, and totally useless aggre- | a dozen friends in the common subscription of one franc; a freethinker, a socialist, and a friend of democracy, give each ten centimes. A M'me Leon, who is a lemonade retailer and a friend of justice, gives five francs; an honest man and an enemy of Consarism in general and of Bonapartism in particu iar, give each twenty-five centimes. An enemy of the calotte (skull-cap worn by Catholic priests), a Red Republican, and a young lady friend of Victor Noir send in moderate subscriptions. And so the list goes on-the sum total standing at 328 francs. A queerer subscription list never came under our eyes; and, even with the fair knowledge of the various socialist denominations, it is difficult to make out all the saints by which these outspoken donors swear. Some of the entries are wholly untranslatable, and the whole thing suggests the oddest mixture of democratic passions and Behemian friendships, slang, and socialism.

> THE Cologne Gazette says that the prayer-books and hymn-books translated into Russian, and published at the expense of the Russian Government for the use of Protestants and Catholics, contain important falsifications which have been introduced by the official translators with the object of bringing both these denominations as near as may be to the Russian orthodox faith. Passages which treat of those doctrines in which Protestantism and Catholicism differ from the orthodox faith are altered in such a manner as to prove on the contrary that there is no appreciable difference between the three persuasions. In the Lutheran Church at Moscow, whose pastor, Mosing, has for some time conducted the service in Russian, a new Russian psalter has been introduced instead of Luther's translation of the Psalms, which bears the title of "A Present for Orthodox Christians." These faisincations are severely blamed by many, and described as a manœuvre which must greatly disgust both Protestants and Catholics.

-Colonel Baker, who made the attack on the Piegan Indians, was born at Fort Ann, Washington county, N. Y., and his parents still reside there. His friends in his native town warmly defend him against the charge of inhumanity.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the WESTMORELAND COAL COMPANY will be held at the office of the Company on WEDNESDAY, April 6, 1870, at 12 o'clock M., when an election will be held for eleven Directors to serve during the ensuing year.

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