THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1870

SPIRIT OF TI I PRESS. Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics-Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

A NEW MICAWBER. From the N. Y. Tribune.

We have always understood that Pennsylvania legislators (unlike all other legislators) had a shrewd eye to the main chance in large things, and in every-day life an especial relish for free lunches and free passes. In consequence of some dissension between the principal State railroad companies and the lawmakers at Harrisburg, the latter very useful aids to cheap living have been, it seems, of late "both skerse and high." Senator Lowry, who appears from his recent letter to the colored citizens of Philadelphia to be a man of infinite resources and unusual imaginative powers, in this strait has hit upon a means of locomotion for himself in the future which is certainly sufficiently clear of expense. "My body," he says, "will hardly bear transportation East; I will let it rest on the shores of the lake; but my spirit will march onward to your great celebration in the knapsack of John Brown's soul." Really this soul Brown's soul." Really, this hardly seems fair to John. Senator Lowry might be borne; but how many of Senator Lowry's honorable colleagues at Harrisburg will see fit to follow his example? There's the rub. They are reported to have keen eyes for a good thing, and to follow each other as do sheep the bellwether, wherever there is a saving to be made. There is a vague pathetic belief prevalent that John Brown's soul carried the burden of the war, and bore all the wrongs and sufferings of his people. We are willing to believe this possible, but the additional burden of the Pennsylvania Legislature, and Senator Lowry to boot, would be a weight that God or man would stagger under. In that sleep of death dreams may come, but surely not nightmares such as these.

Senator Lowry's soul, while leaving his body to repose upon the shores of the lake, manifests a remarkable alacrity, not to say friskiness of mood, probably in anticipation of its intended deadheaded journey. Its acquaintance with spiritual matters is both familiar and jocular. After likening its colored earthly correspondents to black steers, mules, and spotted heifers, in a manner which in a less spiritual letter-writer might be objected to as hardly courteous, it assures them that it foresees education for them "both as a manna and a rainbow." That it has a vision of Johnson in the garb of Moses as he led them "rollickingly into Jeff Davis' seat," and that they are hence-forth at liberty "to make their beds in hovels or palaces - in heaven or in hell," counselling them, however, before fretiring to their couches in the latter places, to hasten to the South, "whose climate, waste lands, and citizens (who have less prejudice against the race than the Northerners) will prove their best friends and" (by way of proving their old historic friendship, we presume) "will draw them into the graves of their ancestors." With any mere earthly adviser we would venture here to differ and urge our new voters to keep out of ancestral graves, and delay making up the aforesaid beds as long as possible; but before a seer gifted with Senator Lowry's powers of foresight and locomotion we are dumb. The Pennsylvania Legislature and the spirit world together are too much for us.

countered is probably for the present contemptible, if only it can be brought within reach. The Canadian Government appears to have resolved on undertaking the enterprise, and it would be desirable that any pos-sible assistance should be furnished by the Imperial Government. The withdrawal of the garrison from Canada would have prevented the despatch of a contingent, nor would it have been desirable to risk a body of regular troops in so distant and obscure a campaign; but the colonists have a reasonable claim for a contribution in the form of money or of stores.

The insurgents of the Red River are of mixed Indian blood, and it is not known whether their ostensible grievance is the real cause of their disaffection. It is highly probable that the better class of inhabitants is opposed to the insurrection, and the insolent outrage of putting a loyal subject to death for abiding by his allegiance indicates a belief that it is expedient to strike terror into dissidents, and to make the rupture irreparable. The Red River forms a part of the vast terri-tories which were included in the charter of the Hudson's Bay Company, and the insurgents complain that they were transferred to the Dominion of Canada without reference to their wishes or their alleged interests. It had for some time been the object of English statesmen to satisfy the wishes of Canada by inducing the Hudson's Bay Company to part with its anomalous sovereignty, It was asserted that the company discour-aged settlement for the purpose maintaining its hunting grounds intact; and there was an apparent anachron-ism in allowing territorial possession to be a subject-matter of joint-stock enterprise. The Canadians, like the Americans of the United States, were disturbed by seeing on the map, colored in a tint which indicated a separate ownership, a considerable region which appeared to them a part of their natural inheritance; and they had no suspicion that, with the exception of the Indian tribes, the Hudson's Bay Company reigned over any appreciable body of subjects. The controversy which had long pended between the colony and the company was finally adjusted a year ago through the mediation of Lord Granville. The price was settled, and the formal conveyance was effected; but sufficient care apparently not been taken of personal and local interests. There is reason to believe that some of the servants of the company who are likely to be deprived of their occupation have not been forward in facilitating the transfer of the possessions of their former employers. On their suggestion. or spontaneously, a belief was spread among the scattered inhabitants of the Red River that intruders from Canada were about to enter their country and to occupy the provincial offices. It is scarcely probable that the wealth of the district would have attracted the cupidity of strangers; but it is difficult to make any change without touching upon some vested interest. It would probably have been judicious to reserve some small percentage of the purchase-money to satisfy petty officials, or even for the practice on a small scale of the arts which accomplished the Irish Union. When Mr. Macdougal, the Canadian Governor or Commissioner, ap-peared to take possession of the provincial Government, he was refused admission to the territory; and as he was not, and indeed could not have been, accompanied by any armed force, he had no choice but to desist after a

task of reconciling practical necessities with the theory of allegiance to the Imperial Government

NEW NEWSPAPERS.

From the N. Y. World. The failure of the Pall Mall Gaectte as a morning journal has a moral in it which may be beneficially laid to heart by the promoters of new enterprises in journalism on this side of the Atlantie. f the Atlantie. Certainly the Pall Mall has not failed for

any lack of brains in its management. In point of literary ability it has been at the head of English journals. Its articles have not only been well written but they have been carefully read and sought for by men of special information on their several topics. No more luminous discussion has been had in journalism than that of English political and social subjects in its columns. Besides the leaders, in which the Times alone rivalled it and in which it usually outshone the Times, it had the sense to see that man could not live by heavy leaders alone. It was the first daily paper in Great Britain to add to itself, as a regular department, the editoparagraphs which have long been rial characteristic of American newspapers. These were always timely and always well done, and though not always unterly and always won done, and though not always up to the mark of French brilliancy or American "snap," they were ethereal lightness to the previous daily literary food of the solid Briton. The news was always fully summarized in it, and in its mechanical features, as well as in many of its literary features, it was what the theatrical people call an attractive

novelty. Notwithstanding all these attractions it has failed, for no other apparent reason than that its field was already occupied. The "laborers" indeed were plenteous, but the harvest was "few." It could only succeed by wresting from newspapers of a longer date the vantage-ground which that priority of estab-lishment gave them. It attempted to supply the place, in some measure, both of the Times and the Telegraph. It had more than all the scholarship of the one, and many of the popular features of the other. It was better got up than either of them, and it sold at a price between them. It was an attempt to publish a costly paper of limited interest at a price at which only a ckeep paper of general interest could be made successful. The Telegraph succeeds because it appeals to the enormous half-educated class and its publication costs comparatively little. The Times succeeds because, although its publication is costly and a great part of its contents caviare to the general, it has an ad-vertising business which has taken threequarters of a century to build up, and which makes it a necessity to many to whom other papers are a luxury. The Pall Mall failed because it took the tone of the Times, without the chance of acquiring the chief support of the Times, and sold at a price at which only such a circulation as that attained by the Telegraph could be remunerative, without a chance of attaining the popularity of the Telegraph. Between these two stools it has fallen to the ground.

The year has made several important contributions to British newspaper necrology. The slow old Morning Herald has given up its feeble ghost, though its death presents no marked features of difference from its life. The ardent young Star, the "Bright but not particular Star" of Punch, merged its flittering ray into the News. And now the morning edition which was the forlorn hope of the Pall Mall has failed, after a brief career of brilliant literary success and gloomy

economic disaster. The Gazette, which is the only one of the

PROGRESS ON THE TARIFF. From the Missouri Democrat.

The reduction of the duty on railroad iron, carried in Committee of the Whole on motion of Mr. Benjamin of this State, is a legitimate sequence of the reduction of the duty on pig metal. Indeed, if four dollars a ton is to be taken off from the duty on pig, as the committee has voted to do, the rail makers will gain on the cost of the raw material for a ton of rails about six dollars, and with a reduction of the duty on rails only two dollars a ton will still be better off than they new are by four dollars a ton. In other words, the reduction of duties will help them just as much as if four dollars a ton had been added to the duty on rails without any change in other duties. This well illustrates the principle for which we have so earnestly contended, and upon which a majority of the House seems to be acting-that the true way to protect American industry is not to increase but to lessen its burdens. If these changes in the tariff should be adopted by both houses, the burdens of the people would be reduced, first by four dollars a ton on all pig iron consumed, say eight millions of dollars and second, by two dollars a ton on all railroad iron used, say two millions of dollars; so that the entire reduction of taxes on these two items along would be ten millions of dollars. Meanwhile, the rolling mills, being in better position than before, would be able to use the cheaper iron more largely, and a portion of the rails now imported from Great Britain would be shut out-not by increase, but by decrease of duties.

The people of the West, to whom cheap transportation, cheap railroads, and cheap iron are prime necessities, would have great cause for thankfulness if these most excellent changes of duty should be carried into effect by the adoption of a bill with the rates on iron as now fixed in committee. Hearty thanks are due from them to General Butler, who moved the reduction on pig iron to five dollars, to Mr. Allison, of Iowa, who moved the reduction on bar and other forms of iron, and to Mr. Benjamin, of Missouri, who moved the reduction on railroad iron, and to the good and true men who carried these reforms by their votes. We regret that the votes in the committee are not recorded and cannot be given, but believe they would show that every member from Illinois, every member but two from Missouri, every member from Kansas, Nebraska, and Minnesota, and every member but one from Iowa, voted for the reduction of duties.

Some of the Pennsylvania men still hope to put back the duty on pig iron when the vote is taken in the House. But it is a most encouraging fact for the much-taxed people, and a most discouraging one for the monopolists, that the majority for reduction in committee, though not large, is apparently very sure. A dozen votes have been taken on vital questions, and in each instance the iron ring has been beaten, though the majority has never been more than fifteen, and once fell to only one. In the committee, where there is no record of votes, some men vote against reduction of duties who would never dare to do so on the yeas and nays in the House. The absentees are generally paired. Thus Pennsylvania people ascribed their defeat on iron to the absence of some of their members, but it turned out that their absentees were paired with others who would have voted for reduction, and though they have since returned, the majority for reduction is larger now than it was then. We begin to believe that there is a small but safe majority of the House to sustain the reductions already voted in committee, to

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THE RED RIVER REBELLION. From the London Saturday Review. The rebellion in the Red River territory is

very annoying, but indignant patriots are hasty in quoting it as a proof of the decline of English spirit. It is of course proper and necessary to protect every part of the empire: but the Red River must be content to rank in national regard after Yorkshire or the Isle of Wight. Few politicians who are called upon to apply a general proposition to an extremely special case had ever heard of the insurgents or their territory before they thought proper to rebel. It now appears that they are peculiarly situated, and that the grievance which they have risen in insurrection to redress is of an exceptional kind. For eight months in the year it is impos-sible to reach the Red River from the civilized world, except by traversing a part of the dominions of the United States. It is more surprising that an application for a free passage of troops should have been made to the American Government than that it should have been peremptorily refused. In modern times most free countries are inclined to maintain strict neutrality in civil contests amongst their neighbors, and the people of the United States, except in the case of their own civil war, have uniformly been something more than neutral between sovereign powers and insurgents. Their habitual relations with England are not enthusiastically friendly, and it was certain that they would sympathize with the rebel, whatever might be the cause of quarrel. The Americans are also eager for the extension of territory in proportion to the superfluous extent of their possessions; and it has always been to them an uncomfortable reflection that an English colony lay from sea to sea between the States and the North Pole. Mr. Seward's purchase of Russian America was intended to outflank the unwelcome possessors of the higher latitudes, and it may have seemed probable that the Red River rebellion would ultimately transfer another inhospitable tract of land into the hands of the Great Republic. Although it is probable that northwestern newspapers may be disagreea-bly outspoken on the subject, there is no reason to complain of any public act on the part of responsible authorities. It is not certain that in the converse case the English or Canadian Government would have allowed an American force to traverse its territory; and it was undoubtedly competent to an independent power to refuse any permission of the kind without furnishing just cause of offense. If the rebels should succeed in maintaining themselves in their remote corner of the earth, it will be impossible that they should form an independent State. They would necessarily gravitate to their powerful neighbors; and, if necesthe process might be accelerated either by buying their leaders or by sending the necessary number of voters across the border to decide upon annexation. The acquisition of Texas was by similar methods effected with perfect ease; and although it is not as easy to dismember the British Empire as to detach province after province from Mexico, it is undeniable that some portions at least of the wide Dominion of Canada are practically indefensible. It is not easy to reconquer even from a handful of adventurers an inaccessible territory; and the difficulty would become indefinitely greater if the attempt involved a contest with the United States. If any attempt is to be made during the short summer to suppress the rebellion, there is no room for delay. The force to be en-

murder. There is no longer any room for discussion; and it may be hoped that the impediments to the exercise of force are not insurmountable. To a certain extent the English Govern-

time from his futile enterprise. A French

half-breed has contrived for the present to

put himself at the head of a provisional gov-

ernment, and after some hesitation he has

committed himself to rebellion by a political

ment may be considered under an obligation to guarantee the transfer of the territory to the Dominion, The Hudson's Bay Company was an English incorporation, and its members and officers were exclusively English subjects. The sovereignty of its possessions remained in the Crown somewhat more fully than the corresponding prerogative when it is applied to a great and self-governing colony. The Governor, indeed, was appointed by the company, and there was no English functionary to represent the Imperial authority; but, on the other hand, the company depended for its existence on charters and acts of Parliament which might at any time have been recalled or repealed. The English Government took part in the late negotiation, partly to gratify the wishes of Canada. but also through a desire to break loose from a connection with an anomalous system and with the responsibility which it involved. The principal benefit of the transfer accrued to Canada, but England was a necessary party to the proceeding, and was bound as far as possible to see that it was completed. It is highly desirable that, if the undertaking is not intrinsically impracticable, the insurrection should be forcibly suppressed without delay. The possible risk of compli-cations with the United States concerns England as nearly as Canada. A collision or a quarrel would soon transcend colonial dimenions, especially as American patriots would take more pleasure in insulting England than in interfering with the rights of Canada. If the Red River is once subjected to its new allegiance, the Government of the Dominion may fairly be expected to charge itself with the future vindication of its own authority; but until the territory lately belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company has been reduced into possession, the colony has a claim upon England. The Canadian House of Commons lately rejected by a large majority a proposal that the Dominion should ask the Imperial Government to concede to it the management of its own commercial diplomacy. Yet, although the loyal feeling of the colonists is warm and steady, the local Government is constantly compelled by circumstances to rely more and more on independent action. The main burden of punishing the Red River insurgents will necessarily fall on the Dominion, and the late legislation of the Canadian Parliament on the fisheries has already produced counter demonstrations on the part of the American Government. The despatch of a war vessel by the President, to protect the supposed rights of American fishermen, is in itself perfectly legitimate, but it is probable that the firmness and temper of the Canadian authorities may be severely tested. The legislation over which the Dominion has exclusive control is necessarily affected by the restrictive policy of the United States. Congress declines the renewal of the reciprocity treaty, and even the free-trade party support the system of prohibition in the avowed hope that Nova Scotia, or some other part of the Dominion, may be induced by commercial inte-rest to ask for admission into the Union. The tariff which is now under discussion in the Canadian House of Commons is intended to be in some respects retaliatory, and it will be found in other respects that practical sovereignty in domestic matters involves a certain interference with external relations. Canadian statesmen will not be unequal to the

failures over which there will be any regret except in the bosoms and pockets of their projectors, aspired to be, according to the prospectus of Thackeray, "a paper written by gentlemen for gentlemen." But the class of conventional gentlemen is limited, in England as elsewhere; and a paper which appeals to them alone must be made successful either by an increase of price or some extraneous means of support, such as the *Times* possesses in its advertisements.

The newspaper is rapidly developing by differentiation. The journals of the future will be of two sorts-a journal for the few, and a journal for the many. The former will be decorous and dear; there is reason to fear that the latter will be cheap and nasty. The one may be a paper "written by gentlemen for gentlemen;" the other by blackguards for blackguards. The impossibilities of journalism in the future will be a high-priced lowtoned paper, and a low-priced high-toned paper, such as the Pall Mall Gazette tried to Those who are projecting or prosecuting either will save their money and their peace of mind by stopping where they are. Indeed, it is not probable that the future of journalism will be in the way of multiplication at all, but only of improvement.

SUBTERRANEAN BROADWAY - WHO OWNS IT?

From the N. Y. Herald. What an astonishing subterranean puzzle Broadway will be one of these days if all the "grand enterprises" that are promised or threatened shall be completed. There are just three underground railway schemes. With the Arcade Railway, the latest and greatest monstrosity proposed, the public is familiar. It proposes to plough up Broadway and scoop it out to a sufficient depth to run a railway train just beneath the surface, and then make a new surface which will never be in order, so that the public will be indefinitely deprived of the use of the street. There is also what is called the Central Underground Railway, the law authorizing which was passed last year, and is not now repealed or set aside, nor the rights accruing under it in any way provided for by the new law for the Arcade Railway. Yet the bills are clearly inconsistent, and there must inevitably be a collision of claims, for a great part of the line of the Central Underground Railway runs beneath Broadway. The contracts for the construction of the Central Underground Railway are made, and the Arcade Railway cannot, we suppose, very easily oust its predecessor of the right given by law. Can the State, under the Constitution of the United States, pass a law to impair the obligation of these contracts? A third gift of the subterranean regions of Broadway was to the Pneumatic Tube Company; and, though the law under which this company operates has been repealed, we doubt if that can properly be the end of the enterprise. It cannot, certainly, without great injustice, for the company has evidently spent a great deal of money on the faith of the law incorporating it, and there is something fundamentally wrong in the or-ganization of government if the State can hus render worthless all the property of that company without any good reason of public necessity. Here, then, are three subterranean operations under Broadway, and then, before all, there is the public right in the sewers, Croton water pipes, and gas pipes, both for the length of Broadway and crossing it at every cross street. With all this under Broadway something or somebody must suffer, and this, of course, will be the people.

make others of importance, and then to force through the bill. The steel duties will come up presently, and it seems reasonable to expect that the majority for reduction of duties will be sufficient. When the committee comes to vote on coal and salt, we may with confidence expect other important changes in the interest of consumers. It will not then be surprising f the same strength suffices to cut down the duties on woollen goods and possibly on cottons. And then if the protectionists choose to rally all their forces for the defeat of the bill, the issue may be made in a very satisfactory form. On the other hand, if the com-

bination of special interests succeeds in re-Every P versing the action of the committee or in preventing other essential reductions, the test Descriptive I cation to the C question may come on one of the short bills proposed as substitutes, such as the one recently proposed by Mr. Judd. On the whole, the doings in the House are N. W. con

very much more encouraging than we had reason to expect. The members of the present Congress, chosen without regard to the tariff question except in districts where special interests control, were originally protectionists by a large majority, and the change which has been brought about by manifestations of public opinion, by the influence of the press, and by the report of Mr. Wells, have been very remarkable. When the people speak by their ballots, a still greater change will be witnessed.

REMOVAL OF THE STATE CAPITAL. From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

The Philadelphia Morning Post and some other city papers, says the Lancaster Inquirer, have quite recently suggested the re-moval of the State capital from Harrisburg to Philadelphia; and among the reasons for such a measure it is urged that the in-fluences surrounding the Legislature at the latter place would be vastly superior to what they are at present. There is a good deal of brass, or perhaps what is more aptly deno-minated "cheek," in the world; but we could not have believed, without positive evidence, that any respectable journalist possessed the amount required to make such a statement. If there is any one thing that could sink

the Legislature of Pennsylvania to a lower deep than it has already reached, it would be the removal of the capital to Philadelphia. Then the corporations that have their headquarters there, the roosters who sit there upon their native perch, and the newspapers that are annually purchased to do the dirty work of both, would be at home "upon their native heath," and could ply their vocation with all the additional skill and vigor that a perfect knowledge of the ground, and an intimate acquaintance with the highways and byways and places of shelter, gives to the highwayman and public plunderer. We see enough of Philadelphia influence in

the character of the men she sends to our Legislature at present and in the silence of her leading journals when the most daring schemes of robbery are proposed in that body, to warn us not to subject the Commonwealth to the additional disgrace that would ensue from a removal of the State capital to that city.

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