SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

BROOKS AND COX.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

Those eminent legislators who decorate and defend the Democracy of this city in Congress, Mr. Brooks and Mr. Cox, who do most of the eloquence, inasmuch as thinking is an entirely superfluous function, in behalf of their singular constituencies, of course could not be expected to let slip such an occasion as the proposition to abolish the mission at Rome gave them for an airing of their devotion. They are not our sole representatives, it is true. But the accomplished Mr. Morrissey is at present in the position of the scriptural person who had bought him a yoke of oxen, which we understand to be the ancient analogue of the modern pursuit of looking after the bulls of our Wall street Bashan, and therefore he could not come, and the sly Mr. Fox notoriously goes on his way rejoicing, caring for none of these things. It was rather unfortunate that neither of these persons was able to lift up his brogue in defense of the assailed Papacy, inasmuch as both have a hereditary and a sectarian, as well a polemical, claim to the championship of that imperilled institution. But so it was, and upon the old Native American, Mr. Brooks, and the author of "The Buckeye Abroad," whose political gyrations we really do not feel ourselves obliged to remember or to record, devolved the task to prop and puff the "poor old Pope."

It was the opinion of Anthony Weller, concerning the hortatory eloquence of the shepherd at the tea-party of the United Grand Junction Ebenezer Temperance Association, that "wery well he did it, considering how heavy them muffins must have lied on his chest." We are happy to find it in our power to pay a similar compliment to Mr. Brooks. Considering how the ghastly and uncoffined shade of Archbishop Hughes must have constantly appeared to himself to annotate his remarks by waving before his inner sight exhumed *Expressses*, still more ghastly and unsavory than itself, in which cruel and unusual language was applied to that lamented prelate and all his works, Mr. Brooks discharged his task and his fire with uncommon vigor and precision. Of its copiousness nobody need to be told who has heretofore wandered through the watery waste of his emissions in the *Globe*, and found, in quantity if not in quality, books in the running Brooks, M. C. The entire enthusiasm with which Mr. Brooks has come to regard the faith of the foreign portion of his constituency, whose oft-repeated votive offerings have made him what he officially is, impels us to congratulate him on his conversion from the abhorrence with which the unregenerate and editorial Brooks of 1857 regarded the scarlet female person to the reverential tolerance, not to say the humble adoration, by which the same object, clothed in the purple and fine linen of political preferment, has come to be the "most venerable city in the world," and "the mother of art," in the purged and unscaled eyes of the ambitious and Congressional Brooks of 1870. After this there did not seem to be much more in the way of aggregation of agony left for Mr. Cox to do. That ingenious person, however, contrived to see Mr. Brooks' laudation, and to "go it" considerably better. Whereas to the æsthetic Brooks Rome was only the "mother of art," to the deeply devout Cox she was still more interesting as being "the birthplace of Christianity." The incongruous and impertinent Judge Hoar having annotated this statement with a suggestion not wholly unconnected with Nazareth, Mr. Cox, with a spirit for which his constituents ought to give him credit, retorted that he meant "ancient Christianity," and not "modern Protestantism, or modern transcendentalism, or modern freelovism," leaving the inevitable inference to be drawn that these latter systems were offsheots of the Nazarene, as religion pure and undefiled of the Roman, stem. Before such a sunset glow as this Brooks naturally paled his ineffectual fires, and subsided into silence.

But both these eminent converts and athletes of the faith really deserve so much of a canonization as the early and numerous votes of the faithful can confer:—

> These be the great twin brethren
> To whom the Romans pray.

And as the twain of whom these lines were originally written left their home by the proud Eurotas to hasten to the rescue of Rome in a crisis, and thus added a Roman to an Athenian homage, so ought Castor Brooks and Pollux Cox to receive the plaudits and the suffrages of that modern and Milesian multitude which unites the titular and scholastic glories of Greece to the faith of Rome.

THE SPANISH THRONE—A PROSPECT OF A SETTLEMENT AT LAST.

From the N. Y. Herald.

Recent news regarding the Iberian Peninsula is full of interest. A cable despatch from Paris has it that letters from Madrid confirm previous reports to the effect that Prim and Saldanha have an understanding and that the understanding points to an Iberian union.

Such is the news. If the news is true it is good. If it is not true we must still say it is the best thing that can possibly happen on the Peninsula. We have no means of knowing what is the value of an arrangement come to by Prim and Saldanha, or whether there is any such arrangement. This, however, we do know: that an Iberian union is the one thing most likely to settle the Spanish throne question and to give peace and prosperity to the Peninsula. For a time it was our opinion that Napoleon might do well to place himself at the head of the Latin races. If Italy and Spain and Portugal could agree to make up their own differences and then jointly to make up their differences with France, no better arrangement than a grand Latin union could be conceived. The march of events has not encouraged us in the belief that any such union is immediately practicable. Mexico, somehow, spoiled our dream. A Latin union for the present is not practicable. In the interests of humanity and civilization, in the high sense, it is not even desirable. But an Iberian union, though a lesser triumph, points in the same high direction. We have no choice, therefore, but to give it our hearty encouragement. Such a union would be a good thing for Spain, a good thing for Portugal, a good thing for the so-called Latin races, and a good thing for modern progress. If a union of the whole Latin family is not now possible, a union of certain subordinate sections of that family is at least hopeful and full of encouragement.

We look upon the present union movement in the Iberian Peninsula from the point of view thus indicated. We wish to see the peoples uniting. We wish to see national barriers breaking down, prejudices yielding, and languages ceasing to act as dividing forces. We wish to see not only the union of nations, but of races, and, indeed, of the whole human family. Every barrier that is broken down, every prejudice that yields, every dividing force that loses its energy, is a gain to civilization. For these reasons we some time since rejoiced in the successes of Prussia, because they pointed to the unification of Germany. For the same reasons we encouraged Napoleon to put himself at the head of the Latin races. And later, for these same reasons, when Spain was experiencing her first difficulty in filling the vacant throne of Isabella, and when her eyes were momentarily turned to Portugal, we advised Prim and the rest of them to follow the example of the English people, who, on the occasion of the death of Elizabeth, invited King James of Scotland to London, and thus harmoniously and happily made Scotland and England one. We are not ignorant of the fact that it was difficult then to take our advice. Spain was not prepared, and Portugal was not ready. Now, however, after a year and many odd months, Spain still begs for a king. The princes of Europe will not have the crown. Spain has come down so low as to offer the crown to her own subjects, but even they object. Espartero does not care for it, and Serrano is sick of his empty honors. It has always been a matter of surprise to us that Portugal did not catch the contagion of revolution from her neighbor. It now appears that our surprise was not wholly without reason. If our news proves to be correct there has been a quiet understanding between a powerful party in Portugal and the leaders of the Spanish revolution. At all events this does appear:—Prim has been in correspondence with Saldanha. This also is undeniable: the Iberian question, through the Spanish revolution, has reached a point which offers a solution of all existing trouble in the Peninsula.

The settlement of the Spanish throne question is now, in our judgment, made easy. The King of Portugal is a young and highly respectable sovereign. With the materials at his command he has governed wisely and well. Spain cannot do better than offer him the double crown. Luis can reign as well in Madrid as in Lisbon; and if Portugal becomes a second Scotland and Lisbon a second Edinburgh, neither Spain nor Portugal will have any cause of complaint. The union of the two kingdoms in the Peninsula has become a necessity, and a better opportunity than that wich now promises to offer itself will never be presented. Divided, the Iberian Peninsula is weak. United, Spain and Portugal would be a force in the modern world. If Spain is wise she will offer her despised crown to King Luis of Portugal.

ANNEXATION.

From the N. Y. Sun.

Senator Pomeroy of Kansas offered in the Senate on Thursday last a resolution requesting the President to open negotiations with the Government of Great Britain, to ascertain whether the British North American provinces can be annexed to the United States upon terms honorable to both parties. This proposition is probably regarded as a wise one by some of the more ardent and thoughtless among our people. We observe also that a movement in favor of annexation is going on in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Societies are organized, public meetings are held, speeches are made, and pamphlets in favor of annexation are distributed.

All this is so much labor lost, especially the resolution of Senator Pomeroy; it can come to nothing. Great Britain cannot consent to the annexation of her colonies to the United States, and the efforts of the friends of annexation on the north of the border will all be of no avail, except so far as they may influence public opinion in their own neighborhood.

The destiny of the North American provinces is independence. They are separated from the United States by the great lakes in the centre, and by the St. John's and the St. Francis rivers on the east. They have every resource necessary for the establishment of an independent power. They have a Constitution formed for this very purpose, and capable, like the Constitution of the United States, of indefinite expansion over new provinces and territories. Great Britain has already proclaimed her desire to see them set up upon their own account, and take a place in the family of nations. As they now stand, they are to her a cause of great weakness; and were they separated from her and formed into a friendly State, with a republican, aristocratic, or monarchical government, the trength and security of the parent country would be much increased. She has accordingly of late improved every proper opportunity to stimulate them to such a policy. There is no doubt that whenever they may resolve to enter upon it, she will afford them every possible facility and advantage. This then is what they ought to do, and what patriotic men within their borders and judicious men without ought to urge upon their consideration.

The idea of annexing these provinces to the United States, however much it may flatter the vanity of theorizing statesmen among ourselves, or however agreeable it may be to impatient spirits in the provinces, is entirely impracticable. The majority of the people north of the line are opposed to it, and cannot be brought to favor it; and the pride and prestige of Great Britain render it equally inadmissible. Let this notion, then, be dismissed so far as possible from the minds of practical politicians everywhere; let the provinces enter upon their career of independence, and let us here in the United States give them all suitable encouragement and aid in taking this great step. No feelings but those of friendship ought to be cultivated between the two countries. We are neighbors, and our interests in many respects are identical. With independence, our relations must become much more intimate; and the sooner the new nation is formed and put in motion the better for the Canadas, the better for England, and the better for the United States.

WESTON'S WALK.

From the N. Y. World.

Weston, the pedestrian whose previous professional feats have mainly been in demonstrating, to the dissatisfaction of everybody except himself, that but for peculiar misadventures he might, could, would, or should have performed the things he had undertaken to do, and of whom it may thence be said in particular, as it has been said of us all generally, that he walks by faith and not by sight, has now, after many defeats upon the road, which he has converted into victories on paper, engaged to attempt the achievement, which really is a difficult one, of walking 100 miles within twenty-two hours.

It is not likely that a great concourse will be attracted by this announcement. The person who, not being especially moved thereto by lust of filthy lucre, cares to sit awake for twenty-two hours to see another person walking, is even rarer than the person whom the love of notoriety or money can seduce into an attempt to walk during that period; and certainly no person can derive any exhilaration from seeing any part of the performance, since it is only as a whole that it is astonishing or unusual. The traditional skeptic, who, upon being informed that a raven would live for a century, incontinently bought one to try the truth of the statement, was quite as likely to ascertain the point in dispute as any single person will be to know whether Mr. Weston has or has not performed the task which he has set himself, and to the performance of which he solicits the attention, the attendance, and the dollars of his fellow-men.

This improbability of the public's becoming intensely interested in this pedestrian procedure is matter of congratulation. For if people decline to go, in remunerative numbers, to see other people do things of which the only attraction is the difficulty and the danger, the latter people will cease to attempt those things, and will find no imitators, in place of the crowd of imitators they would be sure to attract if they had a sufficient crowd of admiring spectators.

Undoubtedly it is a good thing that a man should be able to walk well, and anybody who exhorts him into a daily walk, as anybody who exalts his daily conversation, is something of a public benefactor. But it is equally clear that it is a very bad thing for a man to derange the habits of a healthy life by taking violent exercise, without sleep and with only hurried and unsatisfactory refreshment, for nearly twenty-four hours at a time. Prompt repair, according to the authorities, will make good the losses of temporary exhaustion. But an exhaustion so utter and so protracted as must be brought about by success, or even by a colorable failure, in such an attempt as this person Weston promises to make, is a constitutional strain so severe as to be almost irreparable. It is not good that such exhibitions should be encouraged.

It is the function of Mr. Bergh to protect donkeys. If a man, however, voluntarily makes a donkey of himself, he does not thereby incur, nor does he deserve, the championship of Mr. Bergh. The only way of restoring him to his normal condition is to leave him to his own devices in solitude. And that, we are glad to know, is the mode likely to be adopted, and to be effectual, in the case of this Mr. Weston.

WENDELL PHILLIPS AND THE LABOR QUESTION.

From the N. Y. Times.

The great anti-slavery orator has found a new theme—or, perhaps, it would be fairer to say that he has returned to an old one. No sooner is the enfranchisement of the negro complete, than he sees in the condition of the laboring classes the work for a new organization, and in the eight-hour law the object of a fresh agitation. In the oration at Boston, recently given, Wendell Phillips exhibits, in undiminished force, his powers of vigorous declamation and impassioned rhetoric. While heartily coinciding with his general principles, and, in the main, agreeing with many of his demands, we think that the orator overlooks, to a great extent, the practical difficulties of the question. The relation between capital and labor is a subject which cannot be settled by Legislatures. No one can find fault with a working man making the best possible bargain on the score of time and wages, and as in the nature of things it is impossible for labor to treat on equal terms with capital unless in combination, no one can deny the necessity of united action on the part of workmen. But while labor is to some extent stationary, capital is the most migratory of all the elements of production. Not all the eloquence of Mr. Phillips can infuse so much sentiment into this great power as will induce it to purchase labor at home at a higher price than it can be obtained for abroad. The experiment has been to some extent tried in England, and the result is that Belgium and France supply the machinery that used to come from English workshops. The labor question must, therefore, be looked at as an international one, and, to ensure success, its leaders must seek a common rallying-point, by which the scattered organizations existing all over the world may be united in one invincible host. The Unionists of Europe are becoming alive to this fact, and are at this moment laying the foundation of a cosmopolitan association such as we have indicated.

The prospect of creating a power so formidable may appear to bode little good to the ultimate progress of society. Were one to judge from the ravings of certain socialistic leaders of the movement in France, the formation of a great labor league would certainly seem likely to be a calamity to the human race. But one result of a universal interchange of plans and opinions would be to dispel such illusions as these which are cherished by the European communists; and our American workmen could perform no greater service in the cause of humanity than by showing that they can recognize, as fairly and frankly as their spokesman did at Boston, the true place and function of the capitalist. It is to be wished that Mr. Phillips had insisted emphatically upon the necessity of adopting some plan of adjusting trade disputes by discussion or arbitration, instead of by the summary and wasteful process of strikes. Capital and labor must be, to some extent, although we hope a constantly diminishing extent, opposing forces; but a line of progress is quite possible between them, as it is in many parallel cases in society and government.

GRANT ON THE RIGHT OF FLIRTATION.

From the N. Y. World.

President Grant, it seems, has ordered a court-martial to be held upon an officer of the army by way of compelling him, if one may "talk horse" on such a theme, to give his skittish wife "her head." The officer in question, Colonel Bailey by name, is accused of being neither young nor good-looking, while his wife is described as an angel of loveliness, gifted with a fine natural genius for "flirtation." Of course, no intelligent mind can refuse its sympathy to the wife in such a case. Nor can we fail to admire the beautiful elasticity of martial law, potent alike to define the political rights of Cuffy in the swamps of Florida and to vindicate the privileges of lovely woman in the ballrooms of Washington. How melancholy it is to reflect that the sad fate of that interesting young lady of Nova Scotia, whom all the world for many years has mourned in pensive song, might have been averted had she but lived in our own happy time and happier land. The

> "Captain bold of Halifax,
> Who lived in winter quarters,"

and by whose unprincipled desertion the unfortunate Miss Bailey was driven in a moment of frenzy to

> "Hang her in her garters,"

would have been promptly and properly condemned to matrimonial hard labor for life had his victim but been able to appeal with "large and luminous eyes," and her back hair artistically let down, to the heart of an American President and the drum-head of an American commander-in-chief. The charges against Colonel Bailey are said to be brought under the category of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." It is a pity that King David had not thought of applying this sort of discipline to the eminent Hebrew soldier, Uriah, whose prurient and provoking interference with the naturally sportive and gracious dispositions of his wife, Bathsheba, gave so much annoyance to his sovereign. The coarser and more violent expedient adopted in that case, of despatching the meddlesome and uxorious general to the forefront of a battle in which he was slain, only served in the end to invest him with a fictitious aureole of martyrdom, and to deprive his poor, persecuted wife of the sympathies to which, as we now perceive, she was in truth entitled.

We earnestly advise Mrs. Cady Stanton and Miss Anthony, and the rest of our fair friends who lead the futnre of their sex, to look to it lest they find themselves suddenly supplanted in the confidence and the esteem of their charming sisters by this artful chivalry of the President. The enthusiasm which, it must be confessed, the right of suffrage has thus far failed to elicit from the female bosom will surely be aroused by a grand movement in behalf of the right of flirtation. Let it once be clearly understood that Grant means to proclaim this right and enforce it by the bayonet, and neither constitutional restrictions, nor party conventions, nor the united opposition of all the married men in America, will avail to prevent his being carried in triumph, upon a swelling tide of irrepressible crinoline fringed with flashing epaulette, into the throne of a gynocratic despotism more formidable than the empire of the Cæsars or the Napoleons.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT.
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 3, 1870.
NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.
The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual Dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the Capital Stock of the Company, clear of National and State Taxes, payable in cash on and after May 30, 1870.
Blank Powers of Attorney for collecting Dividends can be had at the Office of the Company, No. 238 South Third street.
The Office will be opened at 8 A. M. and closed at 3 P. M. from May 30 to June 3, for the payment of Dividends, and after that date from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.
THOMAS T. FIRTH, Treasurer.
5 4 60t

NOTICE.—A SPECIAL MEETING OF the Stockholders of the PHILADELPHIA, GERMANTOWN, AND NORRISTOWN RAILROAD COMPANY will be held in Room No. 34, PHILADELPHIA EXCHANGE, on THURSDAY, the 9th day of June next, at 12 o'clock M., for the consideration of an act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An act to authorize the Philadelphia, Germantown, and Norristown Railroad Company to increase its Capital Stock," approved the 29th day of March, 1870.
By order of the Board of Managers.
5 2 t6 9 A. E. DOUGHERTY, Secretary.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, IN accordance with the provisions of the existing acts of Assembly, that a meeting of the commissioners named in an act entitled "An Act to Incorporate the PROTECTION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, to be located in the city of Philadelphia," approved the 13th day of April, A. D. 1825, and the supplement thereto, approved the 26th day of April, A. D. 1870, will be held at No. 132 S. SEVENTH Street, Philadelphia, when the books for subscription to the capital stock will be opened and the other action taken requisite to complete the organization. 5 13 1m

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, IN accordance with the provisions of the existing acts of Assembly, that a meeting of the commissioners named in an act entitled "An Act to Incorporate the MOYAMENSING FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, to be located in the city of Philadelphia," approved the 13th day of April, A. D. 1859, and the supplement thereto, approved the 26th day of April, A. D. 1870, will be held at 12 o'clock M. on the 15th day of June, 1870, at No. 132 S. SEVENTH Street, Philadelphia, when the books for subscription to the capital stock will be opened and the other action taken requisite to complete the organization. 5 13 1m

NOTICE.
OFFICE OF CHES. AND OHIO CANAL, ANNAPOLIS, May 3, 1870.
The annual meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held in ANNAPOLIS on MONDAY, June 6, 1870, at 2 o'clock P. M.
BENJAMIN FAWCETT, Secretary to Stockholders.
5 5 t6 6

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Stockholders of the CLARION RIVER AND SPRING CREEK OIL COMPANY will be held at HORTICULTURAL HALL, BROAD Street, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, the 25th inst at 8 o'clock. [5 12 12t

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1870 FLORIDA FLOORING. FLORIDA FLOORING. CAROLINA FLOORING. VIRGINIA FLOORING. DELAWARE FLOORING. ASH FLOORING. WALNUT FLOORING. FLORIDA STEP BOARDS. RAIL PLANK. 1870
1870 WALNUT BOARDS AND PLANK. WALNUT BOARDS AND PLANK. WALNUT BOARDS. WALNUT PLANK. 1870
1870 UNDERTAKERS' LUMBER. UNDERTAKERS' LUMBER. RED CEDAR. WALNUT AND PINE. 1870
1870 SEASONED POPLAR. SEASONED CHERRY. ASH. WHITE OAK PLANK AND BOARDS. HICKORY. 1870
1870 CIGAR BOX MAKERS' CIGAR BOX MAKERS' SPANISH CEDAR BOX BOARDS, FOR SALE LOW. 1870
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LEGAL NOTICES.

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY ON THE Estate of GEORGE W. BENNERS, late of the city of Philadelphia, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills for the city and county of Philadelphia, all persons indebted to or those having claims or demands against the same are requested to present them without delay to
EDWIN H. FITLER,
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New Patent Water Filter and Purifier
Will effectually cleanse from all IMPURITIES, and remove all foul taste or smell from water passed through it.
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