THE DAILY EVEN NET TELECHART THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 1870.

Evening Telegraph

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TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 1870.

THE FORTIFICATION APPROPRIA-TION BILL.

THE House of Representatives yesterday passed a bill appropriating \$1,264,750 for the repair, extension, and construction of fortifications designed to protect the seaboard cities. As usual, Philadelphia receives but a meagre share of the money devoted to the proposed purpose, the appropriation for Fort Delaware being only \$18,500, and for a battery at Finn's Point, opposite Fort Delaware, \$33,000, or a total of \$51,500, while \$222,000 is appropriated to three forts in the vicinity of Boston, nearly \$300,000 to forts adjacent to New York, and \$250,000 to forts near San Francisco. It is a matter of some doubt whether any of the money thus voted away will serve a useful purpose, on account of the ease with which fast modern vessels run by any permanent fortification, but the bill is advocated on the ground that the military and naval men of Great Britain boast that in the present state of our defenses their fleets can enter every harbor on our sea-coast and destroy every American seaboard city, and that precautions of some kind against this threatened danger are necessary. If this theory is correct, we know of no good reason why it is not as necessary to expend two or tbree hundred thousand dollars for the protection of Philadelphia as of Boston, New York, or San Francisco, unless it be that the Congressional machine atWashington is run on the principle that anything is good enough for this city. The appropriations for public works and public buildings here are always reduced to the most parsimonious standard, and if all national affairs were conducted on the excessively economical system that is uniformly applied to Philadelphia, the public debt would speedily be liquidated. Single buildings in some of the American cities have cost the nation more money than all the structures it owns here, and it is a matter of continual surprise and mortification that the liberal spirit displayed in behalf of other localities always receives a sudden check when Philadelphia projects come up for consideration.

A OUESTION OF PRIZE MONEY. THE custom of allowing to the officers and men of our national vessels one-half of the value of the captures they may make from the enemy upon the high seas, is one of the relics of an age when naval warfare was esteemed to be nothing more than legalized piracy, that still exist in our naval service. In the army nothing of the kind is heard of, and yet with quite as much justice might the men who fight our battles on land be permitted to enrich themselves by pocketing one-half of the value of property captured or destroyed. The injustice of such discrimination was forcibly shown during the late Rebellion, when the army and navy were frequently in active co-operation; and those who did the fighting on land could not understand why the men of the navy, who were certainly not subjected to greater toils or perils than themselves, should be entitled to such a manifest pecuniary advantage. The naval prize money not only created great dissatisfaction in the army on account of its unjust and partial discrimination in favor of one branch of the military service that had no greater claims than the other, but it was the occasion of an immense amount of discontent in the navy itself. Many of the officers and men who were engaged upon the most laborious and dangerous duty from the beginning to the end of the war never had the slightest chance to win a dollar of prize money, and others who did participate in the capture of prizes were deprived of what they considered themselves entitled to by apparently partial decisions of the Navy Department, or by legal quibbles the force of which no sailor could ever be made to understand. Leaving out of the question the abstract justice or propriety of the practice of allowing prize-money, it must be admitted that, as the law does allow it, it ought to be fairly divided among those who actually won it, and that in any dispute onthe subject between the Government and the naval officers, the latter should be permitted to have a fair chance to prove their claims. An example of the frequent injustice that was done in this matter is presented in the case of Admiral Wilkes, who is now asking Congress to interfere in a matter of \$12,000 which he contends was improperly awarded by the Navy Department to Admiral Lanman. The facts of the case appear to be Wilkes was in command of that the squadron by which the prizes were taken, but that Lanman had been ordered to relieve him. Although the latter did not arrive at his post until sixty days after the capture of the prizes, the Navy Department, by some system of logic that perhaps Mr. Gideon Welles can explain, decided that as Lanman had been ordered to relieve Wilkes he was constructively in command, and was, therefore, entitled to the money. This is a case that apparently does not admit of argument; for if the money belonged to anybody it certainly belonged to Wilkes. He was in command, and was responsible for the management of the squadron until he actually transferred his authority to Lanman, and the Navy Department and the country would have held him responsible for all that he might have done or left undone. He could not plead in extenuation of any blunder, mistake, or neglect of duty that | ter we have indicated. They complain that

Lanman was constructively in command, and | they are made the victims of Irish hatred to as all the responsibility was on his shoulders he was entitled to all the emoluments up to the hour of resigning his authority to his successor. We can only account for the remarkable decision of the Navy Department on the supposition that Admiral Wilkes was in rather bad odor with Mr. Welles and the "ring" that to a great extent controlled him, and it was therefore determined to favor Lanman at his expense. This certainly seems to be a fit case for Congressional interference, and it would be well if, while Congress is about it, an inquiry could be made into the whole system of paying prize money, with a view of determining whether the interests of the Government or the welfare of the naval service require that it shall be longer continued.

THE CASE OF COLONEL FORBES. YESTERDAY in the Court of Quarter Sessions. before Judge Ludlow, George P. Thatcher, formerly clerk in the Pension Agency of Colonel Forbes, was placed on trial charged with embezzlement of certain funds amounting to \$300, on the 19th, 21st, and 22d of January last. Our readers will recollect the references made some time ago in these columns to certain alleged irregularities in the office of Colonel Forbes that appeared to demand a much stricter investigation on the part of the Government authorities than has yet been given. Colonel Forbes made haste to throw all the blame upon his clerk, and the testimony given yesterday seems to indicate that the trial of Thatcher is intended not only to shift the responsibility of gross mismanagement and irregularity from the shoulders of Colonel Forbes to that of his clerk, but also to attract public attention from the main subject. Colonel Forbes was placed upon the witness-stand yesterday, and although he did not deny that he had loaned money to pensioners at exorbitant rates of interest, he strenuously insisted that the particular sum belonging to the Government which was charged in the indictment was used without his authority. As Thatcher was on trial charged with embezzling a specified sum at a specified time, the court was obliged to rule out much testimony that was offered to prove what the practices of the office were with regard to loaning money to pensioners, but we have affidavits in our possession that show conclusively that needy pensioners were bled without mercy by Colonel Forbes as well as his assistants.

Colonel Forbes could not recollect vesterday whether he had authorized Thatcher to take a certain due-bill from a pensioner or not, but some of the pensioners have better memories, although he admitted that he had loaned money out of his own pocket in cases that did not enter into this trial.

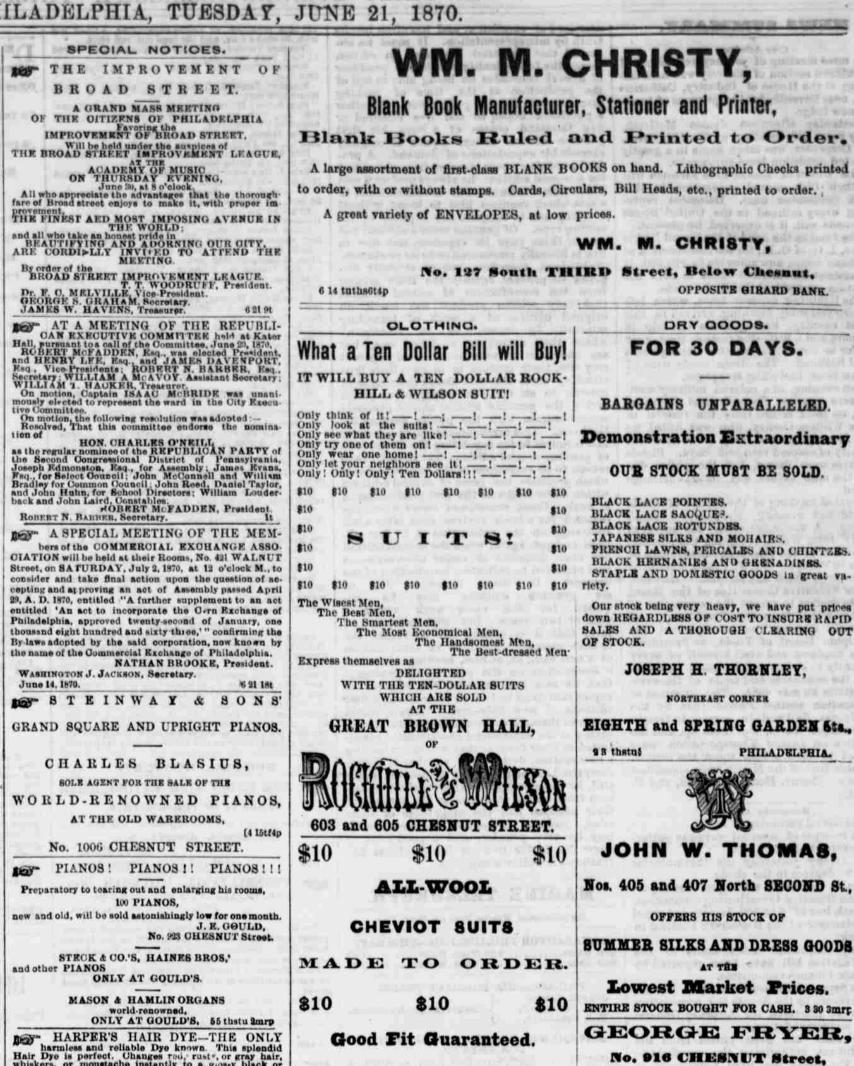
The testimony most to the point yesterday was that of Dr. Strong, a pensioner, who swore that on the 19th of January he obtained from Thatcher an advance of \$25, for which he gave a due-bill for \$30, and that Great Britain, while England grumbles, in turn, at the expense to which the Fenian raids subject her, and threatens that she will squander no more money in defense of her overgrown children. The Kanucks know that their industrial prosperity depends solely upon unrestricted intercourse with the United States, and as their hopes of obtaining this privilege on any other terms than a complete union vanish, their discontent increases as rapidly as their impecuniosity. Still, old associations of friendship and hatred and aristocratic tendencies exert so deep an influence on their social and political opinions, that only a portion of their citizens cordially adopt common-sense views of the living issues of the day, and none of the hard schooling of poverty, fruitless experiments, vain hopes, and domestic disorders is necessary to bring them up to the proper standard for American citizenship, and to create in the sordid British mind a thorough willingness to surrender the vast but profitless British American domain.

To-MORBOW afternoon the great base ball game of the season will come off at the grounds of the Athletics, Seventeenth street and Columbia avenue, between the Athletics and the Red Stockings, of Cincinnati. This match has created the greatest excitement in base ball circles from the fact that the Atlantics, of New York, beat the Red Stockings last week by one run, while the Athletics yesterday achieved a brilliant victory over the Atlantics, beating them by nineteen runs to three. On account of the unusual interest in the contest to come off to-morrow afternoon, we have made arrangements to have the score telegraphed to us direct from the grounds, so that we will be able to give our readers the score of the game as it progresses. Each of our late editions will contain a report, and we will issue an extra edition at the conclusion, giving the result.

In the enterprising town of Peoria there is soon to be played a match game of base ball between picked nines composed of distillers on the one side and revenue officers on the other. If this contest is to be regulated by the rules which apply to the standing contest between these two classes, it is easy to foretell the result. The distillers will be very apt to make the most runs.

SEASIDE LITERATURE .- The first number of the Cape May Daily Star has made its appearance at that popular summer resort. It will be published every day during the season, and will be filled with matters of interest to the sojourners there. The Cape May Diamond has also resumed publication for the season, presenting its usual attractive appearance.

It would seem that the "inspecteurs de morts" in France, whose duty it is to ascertain that persons about to be buried are positively and irrecoverably dead before granting permission for the interment, the amount of care which might be desired for the Hair Dye is perfect. Changes this must of care which might be desired for the comfort of nervous invalids. Recently a called on a certain well-known Parisian docto walting for the doctor's appearance in the c ing-room he felt overpowered by the heat, a into a deep sleep on the sofa. The doctor, or ing, endeavored to wake the sleeper, but w avail. Coming somewhat hastily to the cone that his patient must be dead, he rushed off police station, made the formal declaration cease, and returned with two men and a l convey the body to the Morgue. Great was 1 comfiture on finding the supposed dead man r his eyes, and declaring himself much refre his nap! Had he slept on but an hour long would have come to himself on a cool marb with a tap of cold water running on his head piece of leather about the size of a plate po costume !-- a novel position which might, p have frightened him to death in reality. An historical portrait gallery has been ope St. Petersburg. It includes S00 portraits, of 56 are portraits of Catherine II and 23 of Pe sovereigns who are both honored with the ep "Great." One of the most remarkable port said to be that of the Scotch soldier of f Bruce, Knight of St. Andrew and a Russian and all, with the exception of sixteen or seve belong to the eighteenth century, which is n the first time, thrown open to the study and ciation of Russian writers. Almost simultar with the opening of the Eighteenth-century p gallery, the Grand Duke, heir to the thron meeting of the Russian Historical Societ nounced that he wished to present to the soc Catherine II's papers; and the two events a comed by the Russian press as signifying, ab that a period hitherto known to them, as their own country was concerned, through writings of foreigners is now submitted to amination of native historians. A WINDY WALK .- Lord Weymouth and Sir bald Home have recently taken the trouble up hill under circumstances of peculiar aggra The classic slope of Ben Lomond was the s the exploit, a pair of top-boots was milord' and an open umbrella the most noticeable Sir Archibald's. When it is added that Baro mouth made the tramp backward, and th whole affair transpired during a high wind, it readily conceived that there was a high ol generally, and that milord's receipt of the staked upon the result was owing to the inco ence of going up hill in a high wind with a umbrella, rather than to the facility with which a task is executed by turning one's back upo



Invites attention to his

subsequently this due-bill was deducted from his pension by Colonel Forbes.

This is sufficient to show that there was a full understanding between Colonel Forbes and his clerk, and whether the Government money was used in such transactions or not, the fact that this discounting of pensions was the common practice of the office is all that is sufficient to prove that Colonel Forbes is not a fit person to hold the position of Pension Agent, and that he ought to be removed.

The detectives who examined into the affairs of Colonel Forbes' office found sufficient to convince them that things were not managed as they should be, but the agent of the Pension Bureau, after about two hours examination of the books, returned to Washington and reported that there was nothing wrong. It is apparent to the commonest understanding that a thorough examination could not be made in the time that the agent of the bureau devoted to it, as a week would scarcely have been sufficient, and his report was an evident attempt to whitewash the affair.

If Thatcher embezzled any of the Government money he ought to be punished, and probably will be, but nothing has as yet been brought forward to relieve Colonel Forbes from the responsibility of not only having sanctioned the irregularities alleged to have been perpetrated in his office, but, on the contrary, the whole bearing of the evidence is in the other direction. Whether the Government funds were used or not, it is practically admitted that the agent and his clerks did advance money at outrageous rates of interest to the pensioners, which should be all that is necessary to procure the instant removal of Colonel Forbes, unless the officers of the Pension Bureau wish to lay themselves under the suspicion of being sharers in the profits of the agents.

ANNEXATION OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

A RESOLUTION was introduced in the House of Representatives yesterday by Judge Poland, requesting the President to open negotiations with Great Britain and any or all of the British North American Provinces, with view to the annexation of the lat-8 ter to the United States. We doubt whether "manifest destiny" is sufficiently developed to ensure the speedy success of this movement, but the proposition it embodies will doubtless be made in an authoritative form some day or other; and it may be well enough to commence operations now by agitating it. The Kanucks are a stubborn and stiff-necked race, with a large leaven of loyalty and British tomfoolery still remaining in their composition, and it is perhaps better for all parties concerned that they should tarry in the wilderness of colonial dependence until they are thoroughly disgusted with it, and until their British masters become intensely anxious to get rid of the unprofitable task of acting as their guardians on any terms. Their relations with the home government assume every day more and more of the mutually discontented and dissatisfied charac-

SPECIAL NOTICES. For additional Special Actions see the Inside Pa NOTICE

TO 1176 - Austorian Parmerala, 11 Suan TRAVELLERS.

EVERYTHING BELONGING TO GI MEN'S ATTIRE, NECESSARY TO CON IN SUMMER TRAVELLING, CAN NOT FOUND IN FULL VARIETY AT WANAMAKER'S ESTABLISHMENT, ON NUT STREET. TOGETHER WITH SU SUITS, DUSTERS, LINEN OVERALLS, THERE IS A LARGE ASSORTMEN VALISES, DRESSING-CASES, TOILET CLES IN TRAVELLING SHAPE, AND FURNISHING GOODS GENERALLY, MANY NOVELTIES OF FRENCH AND LISH MAKE.

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harmless and reliable Dye known. This splendid Hair Dye is perfect. Changes red, rust, or gray hair, whiskers, or moustache instantly to a glossy black or natural brown, without injuring the hair or staining the skin, leaving the hair soft and beautiful. Only 50 cents for a large box. CALLENDER, THIRD and WALNUT; JOHNSON, HOLLOWAY & COWDEN, NO. 602 AROH Street: TRENWITH, NO. 614 CHESNUT Street; YAR- NELL, FIFTEENTH and MARKET Streets; BROWN, FIFTH and CHESNUT Sts; and all Druggists. 531 tf 4p March A N D A L U S I A COLLEGE	EVANS & LEACH, No. 628 MARKET STREET.
FIFTH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT, WEDNESDAY, June 22, 1870. Cars leave Kensington Depot at 7'30 A. M., for Part I; and at 10'45 A. M., for Part II. 618 34*	\$10 \$10 \$1 6 18 stuth1m4p
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table. Goods delivered free of charge to any of the de- pots or express offices.	\$1.50 to \$4.00. Pique Dresses do., from \$3.00 to \$3.50. Children's Parasols at half price. Boys' Straw Hats at half price.
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