Evening Telegraph

(SUNDAYS EXCEPTED),

AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH BUILDING. No. 108 S. THIRD STREET,

PHILADELPHIA. The Price is three cents per copy (double sheet), or eighteen cents per week, payable to the carrier by whom served. The subscription price by mail is Nine Dollars per annum, or One Dollar and Fifty Cents for two months, invariably in advance for the time ordered.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1870.

The earliest regular edition of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH goes to press at 11 p'clock, and the subsequent regular editions at 21, 31, and 41. Whenever there is important news of the progress of the European war, extra editions will be issued after this hour, and before the regular time for the early edition.

THE RULES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PHILADELPHIA.

WE publish in another column a letter from Mr. Ruddiman, in which he says that his delay in appointing a committee to report a set of rules for the government of the Republican party in Philadelphia has "had no motive other than that which has commended itself to my [his] best judgment and most conscientious wish to discharge faithfully the duty entrusted to me [bim]." What this motive is he does not condescend to explain. He promises only that "when it shall have exhausted its force the committee will be announced." We are left in a state of blissful ignorance in regard to the time likely to be consumed by this process of exhaustion, and can only hope that at some future period, which may be a day, a week, a month, or a year hence, the labors commensed in September will be resumed. We shall be very glad if it turns out that Mr. Ruddiman's motive is a good one, and if he proves as innocent as a dove and as wise as a serpent in this proceeding. The public interest requires that the Republican party shall devise a system of delegate elections and conventions that is likely to secure good nominations, and thus promote one of the most important objects of local government; and one of the greatest obstacles to the attainment of this end is the tendency prevailing here, as well as many other sections of the country to concentrate controlling power in all preliminary partisan movements in the hands of a small and corrupt but active and influential clique. Upon Mr. Ruddiman's selection members of the proposed committee of fifteen will depend, in a large measure, whether the interests of one or more Republican rings in this city or the general welfare of the party are to possess paramount importance in the new rules. If he acts justly and wisely he may render immense service to the people, while the appointment of slaves of a ring will go far to secure the forging of galling chains for years to come. This subject possesses special importance at this moment in consequence of the notoriety lately given to the robberies and rascalities of the ring which rules New York city. The Republican party here unfortunately includes within its ranks men who would have little hesitation in establishing a similar tyranny here. Ever active and alert, they are not likely to suffer an opportunity like that offered by a revision of the party rules to pass without an attempt to advance their personal fortunes by increasing their influence and importance as partisan managers. Mr. Ruddiman asserts that he is hostile to all ring combinations, and that he could not become "a party to, much less the servant of, any class or clique with objects so unfair and so mischievous." If he stands squarely on this platform he is exactly the right man for his present position, and Philadelphia, instead of running the risk of having a Republican Tammany Hall established here, is in a fair way of ridding herself of some of her present evils. But, Mr. Ruddiman, can-

not you let us have your committee at once? THE FRENCH MUDDLE.

It is difficult to imagine anything more confused than the reports sent from various sources in regard to the condition of French affairs, the status of the Government, and the probable solution of the existing difficulties. Scarcely one question-of fact is definitely settled, and the only thing well established is that anarchy and misery are holding high carnival. The champions of Napoleon claim that by right he still is the Government, yet the ex-Emperor himself, if we are to believe the report of a recent interviewer, lacks the disposition as well as the power to assert this claim. The Orleanists allege that the only hope for France rests in the elevation to supreme power of one of the descendants of Louis Philippe. The provisional government is not only distracted and defied, but it is alleged that an organized secession movement has been made in the southern provinces which is designed to set up an entirely distinct political organization in the districts which have suffered least from the ravages of war. Meanwhile contradictory accounts are given by Bismarck and Favre of the causes of the failure of the late effort to establish an armistice. Each party throws the blame of a continuation of hostilities on the other, and while both profess to be anxious that the French people shall decide their destinies for themselves, Favre contends that this end is thwarted by Bismarck, while Bismarck alleges that the Republicans are to blame for the postponement of the elections. In the midst of all this confusion, and in spite of the long line of German triumphs, the French claim that they have recently won an important victory, and that the armies they are now organizing will soon be powerful enough to drive the invaders back to the Rhine, while the Germans confi- the French Republic?

CALIFFORD BLAZING

dently affirm that they will soon capture Paris, If we search for truth in this maze of contradictions, we know not where to look for a guide, unless it be in the fact that heretofore German prognostications have prevailed with the repeated triumphs of their arms, and if the present German view of the situation is realized by future events, France is rapidly sinking into a fearful abyss.

THE PAID FIRE DEPARTMENT. THE FIREMEN occupied considerable of the attention of Councils yesterday, the subject of a paid Fire Department being introduced in the shape of a very forcibly worded petition from some of the most prominent representatives of the manufacturing, mercantile, and professional interests of Philadelphia, asking for the abolition of the volunteer system as a dangerous nuisance. This petition set forth in very expressive language the sins of omission and commission of the volunteer firemen, and it indicated in an unmistakable manner that a well-founded alarm at the present condition of affairs exists in the minds of those who have the greatest interest at stake in the efficiency of the means provided for the extinguishment of fires. As an instance of the manner in which the volunteer system fails to satisfy the conditions of an efficient organization, the petition relates that at the recent sugar refinery fire on Race street, above Fourth, two rival companies at the outbreak of the fire disputed the possession of a plug for some twenty minutes. during which time the conflagration increased. beyond the power of the other companies to subdue. In view of this and many other facts that prove the worthlessness of the volunteer system, the petitioners were clearly right in saying "That the volunteer Fire Department of this city is subversive of the best interests of this, the second city in the Union, is fraught with great evils to the morals and peace of the community, and is not in keeping with the advanced spirit of the age. That the rapid increase of manufacturing establishments, and our large extent of territory, containing valuable property liable at any moment to the ravages of fire, call for a regularly organized system of protection, free from the evils necessarily connected with an irresponsible body of volunteer firemen."

Perhaps stimulated by this petition, and perhaps animated by a mere sense of duty to the public, Councils performed an exceedingly praiseworthy action in passing an ordinance dismissing from the Fire Department the Good-Will and Philadelphia Steam Fire Engine Companies for riotous conduct on the morning of July 10. If Councils would act in this decided manner more frequently, some of the evils of the volunteer system would undoubtedly be corrected. The ease with which the firemen have hitherto persuaded Councils to restore to active service companies suspended for rioting has been one of the greatest incentives to outrage, for it has induced the tiremen to believe that, so far as our municipal legislature was concerned, they were practically free from The dismissal two companies above named was a virtuous action, for which the members of Councils who voted for it should have full credit, but this alone will not suffice to put a stop to the demoralization that now disgraces the volunteer system, and the only efficient remedy for the evils that every one knows to exist is in a radical reform that will give us a paid Fire Department absolutely under the control of the municipal authorities, and with such an efficiency of organization as can never be obtained with independent volunteer companies.

THE OPPONENTS of the Penn Square site for

the public buildings distinguished themselves

yesterday by introducing, through the medium of Mr. W. F. Smith, a resolution authorizing the City Solicitor, with such additional attorneys as he may select to take legal measures to prevent the erection of the buildings upon the intersection of Broad and Market streets. This resolution, after considerable debate, was postponed for one week, and by the next meeting of Councils the anti-Penn Squareites will doubtless drum up their forces and endeavor to have it pushed through, so as to delay the work as much as possible. This move proves that the interested parties in the neighborhood of Washington and Independence Squares have not given up a hope of carrying their project of placing the municipal buildings upon one of these two sites, in spite of the emphatic verdict of the people of Philadelphia at election. The Legislature, by submitting the choice of a site for the new buildings to a popular vote, removed all excuse for further agitation of the subject after that choice had been made. The law, which is worded so clearly that any one who wishes to understand it can do so, undoubtedly gives the commission the right to place the buildings at the intersection of Broad and Market streets, if they think that is the best place for them, and the "coffin" posters and advertisements that the opponents of the Penn Square site put out just before the election, so far from frightening the majority of voters, only served to convince them that to throw the four squares into one, and to place the new buildings in the centre, would be a very proper thing to do. The agitation that is now being started upon this subject is discreditable to all parties concerned in it, and it will most certainly be useless, and will accomplish nothing except perhaps to delay a great municipal enterprise that every citizen ought to be interested in seeing pushed forward towards completion as rapidly as possible.

General Burnside is accused of having abused the opportunity afforded to him of entering and leaving Paris by taking out of the beleaguered capital an authorization of the Paris Government for the loan recently negotiated in London. Is it possible that the General was also doing a little stroke of business on private account in this transaction, connected with the sale of American arms to

Since Missouri has been lost we scarcely know what Southern State can be considered as reliably Republican. No amount of reconstruction, military interference, or accessions of colored voters can insure the triumph of Republican State organizations which are perpetually dividing into desperate factions, Missouri has been lost by influences similar to those which practically restored Democratic ascendancy in Tennessee and Virginia, and unless better feeling and better judgment are displayed hereafter, the Democracy will soon recapture every Commonwealth in Dixie's land. The rascality, treachery, and selfish quarrels of the leading Republicans of the Southern States are rapidly paving the way for the restoration of Democratic ascendancy.

Among the curiosities of the late elections was the Congressional contest in the Rhode Island district heretofore represented by Mr. Jenckes. The Republicans made no regular nominations, five candidates were put in the field, and it is alleged that open bribery became the order of the day, the ruling price being five dollars for each free and independent voter. Such scenes are rare in this country, for it is more common to buy up conventions, legislatures, or influential men than the masses, and Rhode Island nearly monopolifies the infamy of putting her citizens up at auction.

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October 31, 1870:-

\$954,220.36 Premiums on Policies not marked off November 1, 1869. 502,489 32

\$1,456,709 98 PREMIUMS MARKED OFF as earned from No-

vember 1, 1569, to October 31, 1870:— On Marine and Inland Risks.\$880,746.79 On Fire Risks...... 151,548 67 \$1,032,995.46 Interest during the same 159,500 93

period-Salvages, etc \$1,184,796 44 LOSSES, EXPENSES, etc., during the year as

above:--Marine and Inland Navigation Losses..... \$515,555 93 40,098 85 50,501:40

and Municipal Taxes

Expenses

24,045-90 \$975,126 97 \$309,669.47

15,600 00

ASSETS OF THE COMPANY November 1, 1870. \$300,090 United States Six Per Cent. Loan (lawful money)
260,000 State of Pesnsylvania Six Per
Cent. Loan
200,000 City of Philadelphia Six Per
Cent. Loan (exempt from \$333,375.00 214,000.00

Tax)

164,000 State of New Jersey Six Per
Cent. Loan.
20,000 Pengsylvania Railroad First
Mortgage Six Per Cent. 204,162:58 158,920-00

20,700-00 25,000 Pennsylvania Raiiroad Second Mortgage Six Per Cent. 25,250 00 25,000 Western Penn. Railroad Mortgage Six Per Cent. Bonds (Penn. R. R. guarantee)..... 30,000 State of Tennessee Five Per 18,000 00 4,200.00

Company, 100 Shares Stock 10,000 Philadelphia and Souther Mail Steamship Company, 80 4.000:00 first Hens on City Properties. 261,650-00

Narket Value . \$1,998,557-50 Cost, \$1,264,447 34. Real Estate. Bills Receivable for Insurances made...
Balances due at Agencies—Premiums on
Marine Policies—Accrued Interest and
other debts due the Company... 93,375.47 Stock and Scrip, etc., of sundry corpora-tions, \$7,950. Estimated value...... 3,912.00 142,911.73

\$1 820,727-97 PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 9, 1870. The Board of Directors have this day declared a CASH DIVIDEND OF TEN PER CENT. on the

TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. on the EARNED PREMIUMS for the year ending October 31, 1879 certificates of which will be issued to the parties entitled to the same, on and after the 1st of December proximo, free of National and State Taxes. They have ordered, also, that the SCRIP ORR-

TIFICATES OF PROFITS of the Company, for the year ending October 31, 1866, be redeemed in CASH. at the Office of the Company, on and after 1st of December proximo, all interest thereon to cease on that day.

No certificate of profits issued under \$25. By the Act of Incorporation, "no certificate shall issue unless claimed within two years after the decl ara-

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