Evening Telegraph

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TTESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 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. Last March we 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, Record, 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.

THE following communication has been addressed to certain parties who are supposed to be interested in preventing the public buildings from being erected upon Penn Squares:-

DEAR SIR:—Picase meet a few friends to consult about taking the opinion of the Supreme Court, on Monday, 21st instant, at 12 o'clock, noon, at No. 211 South Sixth street. (Office of W. L. Hirst, Esq.) 19th November, 1870.

The object of this is undoubtedly to obtain an injunction to restrain the commissioners from erecting the public buildings in the manner they propose; and it is but one of the schemes upon which the property holders in the neighborhood of Washington and Independence Squares are resorting to defeat the expressed will of the people. In view of the large majority at the last election in favor of the Penn Squares site, we are confident that the Supreme Court will not interfere, but it is nevertheless important that those who wish to see the public buildings located upon the only proper place for them should be alive to the machinations of their opponents. The obstructive measures of the anti-Penn Squarites ought not to induce the commissioners to give way in the least, or to delay in carrying out their plans. The sooner the work is commenced of preparing the Penn Squares for the public buildings the better it will be for all parties concerned, for when the work is once actually under way there will be even less excuse than at present for interference. The Anti-Penn-Squareites are now endeavoring to influence one of the largest property-holders in the neighborhood of Broad and Market streets to oppose the erection of the public buildings there. We know this to be a fact, but we can scarcely believe that they have much hope for success, in view of the fact that all the property contiguous to Penn Squares will be largely increased in value by the public buildings being located there. This will serve as an example, however, of the schemes that are being put in motion to annoy the Commissioners and to defeat, if possible, the wishes of the people of Philadelphia with regard to the location of their public buildings.

THE FRENCH WAR MOVEMENTS. Ir we are to believe the cable despatches of the World, the grand sortie from Paris, for which Trochu has so long been preparing, will soon be made at a moment when the armies of Paladines, Keratry, and Bourbaki are harassing the Prussian rear. This statement must be received with many grains of allowance, on account of the strong pro-French proclivities of the despatches which have emanated from the same source, but it probably affords a fair indication of what sanguine Frenchmen hope to accomplish some of these fine days. The course of the campaign has fully proved that the leaders of the German army consider an assault upon Paris an extremely hazardous proceeding, and they have anticipated its capture rather through the slow process of a siege than by a "short, sharp, and decisive" assault. However certain this method may prove in the end, it gives the French the advantage of months of recruiting, organization, drilling, and arming, both within the walls of the beleaguered capital and in the large and populous districts which have not yet been penetrated by the German armies. A quick-witted and patriotic nation should make good use of so much time, and raw French recruits have the reputation of learning the art of war, under favorable or exciting circumstances, in a remarkably brief period. The men enclosed within the walls of Paris alone are sufficiently numerous, and they ought to be, after four months' drilling, sufficiently well skilled in the manual exercises and the art of war, to make a powerful demonstration on any given portion of the Prussian line, while Paladines, Bourbaki, and Keratry should also be strong enough, with the hundreds of late pursued, which saves at the spigot and

I have provented as your William or one

thousands of men under their command, to seriously harass the German forces. If France is as skilful in promptly organizing effective armies out of raw material as America was during the late war, she may yet make a fearful rally against the invader; but we are so accustomed to see French anticipations blasted by the genius of Moltke and the overpowering strength of the forces under his command, that we must have convincing proof of the prowess of the soldiers of the republic before we can be fully satisfied of their ability to recover the ground lost by the soldiers of the empire.

MEXICAN SMUGGLING. A DESPATCH from the city of Mexico, via Havana, states that "the Mexican Congress by a large majority has decided to continue the zone libre, notwithstanding the strong opposition of Minister Romero," and that "the frontier States are threatened with revolution unless the law is passed." The practical effect of this policy is very injurious to the United States. It is based on the idea of admitting foreign goods free, or nearly free, of duty in Mexican frontier districts, and once landed, splendid opportunities are afforded for smuggling either into Central Mexico or the contiguous portions of this country. The tariffs of both nations are thus violated for the benefit of a swarm of unmitigated rascals, and a ring is established which reaps enormous profits from an evasion of impost duties in a manner analogous to that adopted by the American whisky ring during the continuance of the high tax on distilled spirits. Minister Romero, in opposing the continuation of the zone libre, was no doubt animated by a desire to render tardy justice to this country, as well as to vindicate the tarnished honor of his own nation; but his efforts have been nullified by the audacious Mexican smugglers. Since their of a revolution, probably commingled

bribery, has exerted a commanding influence in the Mexican Congress, it remains to be seen what action our Government will take. It certainly has grave cause of complaint against the perpetuation of a system which will be actively used for the depletion of the American Treasury and the injury of American manufacturers; and there will be good reason for breaking up the "free zone" business, even if we have to seize and hold it until the rascally Greasers learn to deal justly. In the end a resort to this desperate remedy will probably become absolutely necessary, for the cruel and cowardly scoundrels on our Southwestern frontier can never be held in check by their own Government, and they will never cease to prey upon ours until they are crushed by its arms and punished by its

NAVIGATION OF THE DELAWARE. THE fact that so little is needed to make the navigation of the Delaware river all that could be desired has hitherto prevented the National Government from bestowing upon it the attention it deserves. From above Philadelphia to its mouth it is a broad, deep stream, capable of floating the largest vessels, and it has always been our boast and pride that crafts incapable of entering New York and other harbors could come up our river and discharge their cargoes upon the wharves of Philadelphia without impediment. The only serious interference with free navigation at all seasons is the shallow at the lower part of the neck known as the "Horseshoe Shoals," and at this place an ice accumulation takes place nearly every winter that occasions an infinite amount of difficulty to vessels coming in and going out of port. These shoals are increasing every year, and threaten to interfere with the navigation of large vessels at other seasons than mid winter, and it is a matter of the first importance that some decided effort should be made to remove them, or at least to make them less troublesome than they now are. A short time ago Councils adopted a series of resolutions calling the attention of Congress to the subject, and yesterday the Board of Trade had under consideration a resolution adopted a few days ago by the Board of Port Wardens, inviting the Board of Trade and the Commercial Exchange to appoint a joint committee to co-operate with Councils to devise a plan to remove the obstructions in the navigation of the river Delaware at the point mentioned, and to apply to Congress for the necessary appropriation. We are gratified to see Councils and the representatives of the commercial interests of the city making an earnest move in this matter, and Congress certainly ought to grant the appropriation asked for. Where the National Governmenthas spent one dollar for the benefit of Philadelphia it has laid out thousands for the benefit of other and less important localities, and we certainly have some claims that are entitled to a respectful hearing. We do not complain that more money has been invested in the improvement of other harbors, for happily we are so situated that our harbor pretty much takes care of itself. The fact, however, that we have had no appropriation of any moment gives us an additional claim upon the Government when we really need one. It is clearly the duty of the nation, and not of the city of Philadelphia, to maintain a great national highway like the Delaware river in good condition; and the work to be performed upon the "Horseshoe Shoals," in order to prevent an ice block every winter, is so small comparatively that there ought to be no hesitation whatever in Congress about appropriating all the funds that are required for the purpose. If the subject is urged with the proper vigor by Councils, the Board of Trade, and the Commercial Exchange, and our representatives in Congress do their whole duty in the matter, Congress would at least be compelled to give the subject consideration, and we doubt not that the appropriation would be granted. The only fear we have on this point is in the fact that the false

policy of economy which Congress has of

| lets out at the bunghole, may prevent the appropriation from being made. If Congress would abolish the franking privilege, more than enough money could be saved to remove all obstructions to the free navigation of the Delaware, but the franking privilege is so dear to the hearts of the members that, from all appearances, they would rather see all the harbors in the country closed up than to give up their facilities for burdening the mails with tons of useless documents, not to speak of dirty clothes and matters of that sort.

GENERAL BUTLER, in his letter on the Mc-Garrahan claim, which we published yesterday, takes the ground that if the whole controversy connected with it is probed to the bottom it will be found that "the people of the United States have of right millions of property in that claim." He does not believe that it belongs to McGarrahan, and he thinks it doubtful whether the title of the New Idria Company can be clearly established; and it seems that while our politicians have been ranging themselves so strongly on the side of Casar or Pompey, they have been forgetting the rights of Rome. This is the old story, perpetually repeated, in a thousand forms, at Washington.

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