# THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1870.



PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON (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.

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1870.

The earliest regular edition of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH goes to press at 1 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.

## JOSEPH R. LYNDALL.

The example of the Democracy in putting up their best man as a candidate for State Senator in the First district, and the plain speaking of a portion of the Republican press, had their proper effect in the nominating convention which met yesterday, and the Republican candidate for the vacancy created by the death of Senator Watt, Joseph R. Lyndall, is a gentleman who is fully deserving of the cordial support of every Republican voter. This nomination is one of the strongest that could have been much, and with Mr. Lyndall's name upon the Republican ticket success may be considered as assured. Mr. Lyndall, who was born in the district of Southwark in 1822, has always taken an active if not always a prominent part in politics, and he has been identified with the Republican party from its first organization. He commenced life as a hou e carpenter, and by industry and integrity he obtained a competency. For a number of years he was a manu acturer of blinds, and while engaged in this business he was nominated in 1856 as the Republican candidate for Mayor, he being the first nominee made by the then young and despised party for the office of Chief Magistrate of the city of Philadelphia. Mr. Lyndall's acceptance of this nomination was an evidence of his courage and his devotion to the principles which have since secured for the Republican party its greatest triumphs. In 1858 he accepted a position in the office of the Receiver of Taxes under Major Flomerfelt, and in 1862 he was elected City Controller. The manner in which he managed the important business of the Controller's office gave universal satisfaction, and at the end of his term he was renominated and re-elected. He was earnestly solicited to accept another. nomination, but declined, and since then he has enjoyed the retirement of private life, and has figured neither as a holder of or a seeker for office, while he has been one of the most active among the citizens in his section of the city in aiding and advancing the interests of the Republican party. Mr. Lyndall is now a member of the Southwark Dispensary, a trustee of the Fire Association, and a director of the Southwark Library, all of which institutions are indebted to the interest he has taken in them, and to his labors to promote their welfare. That Mr. Lyndall will faithfully and ably represent the interests not only of the First Senatorial district but of the Republican party at large in the State Senate his lifelong record sufficiently guarantees, and as the Democrats will undoubtedly make enormous efforts to carry the election, every Republican voter should do his duty at the polls and make the election of Mr. Lyndall a certainty, as it will be if a full Republican vote is polled. This election is one of very great importance, as the State Senate is now a tie, and the votes of the citizens of the First district will determine whether or not the Republicans or the Democrats shall have a majority. At the next session of the Legislature the apportionment not only for members of the Legislature but for Congressmen will be made, and it is therefore of the first consequence that there should be a Republican majority in both chambers. With such a candidate as Joseph R. Lyndall, there will be no excuse for any Republican voter remaining away from the polls, and he ought to bring out the full strength of the party.

bearer of despatches between the Rebel government at Richmond and its agents within the Union lines and in C anad t. He states that the abduction plan was given

up as impracticable, and that he had no further knowledge of Booth's plans and no information whatever of the assassination conspiracy except what he gained from rumors that reached him in different ways to the effect that some trouble was brewing. With regard to Weichman, the language used by Surratt is very violent, and he charges the chief witness against the conspirators with being implicated in the conspiracy himself, and declares that the only reason why he was not more prominent in the matter was that the others doubted both

his courage and his trustworthiness. Thus far Surratt tells a very straight story, but when he comes to his movements upon the day of the assassination and subsequently, he is obliged to fall back upon a declaration that the United States authorities destroyed the leaf of the Baltimore hotel register upon which he inscribed his assumed name of "John Harrison," and other evidence of importance in his favor. He also violently abuses Judge Fisher, who presided at his trial, and declares that all the influence of the Court was used against him. In regard to the charge of deserting his mother, Surratt in-ists that he knew nothing of her danger until it was too late to render her any assistance, because his friends in Canada prevented any reports of the trial from reaching him until it was over and the doom of the conspirators pronounced. This is the sum and substance of the story Surratt has to tell, and as some of the most important portions of it raise questions of veracity between him and the officers of the United States who assisted in bringing him and the other conspirators to trial, the loyal people of the United States will have no difficulty in determining which to believe. If Surratt could produce any evidence to show that he was not one of the assassination conspirators. or if he could throw any fresh light upon the conspiracy by telling his story in his own way, we could readily excuse his doing so; but to make such a theme the subject of a lecture is simply nauseating, and Surratt would have done better to have remained in obscurity and stood his chances of being forgotten than to have come before the public with a narrative that does not remove in any way the strong suspicion that attaches to him, and that can only have the effect of calling public attention to a subject that one would think he would be glad to have forever

#### THE GRAND ARMY OF THE RE. PUBLIC.

consigned to oblivion, if such a thing were

possible.

A TELEGRAM from Washington states that General Logan recently visited the White House to protest against the proposed appointment of General Pleasanton as Internal Revenue Commissioner. The doughty Illinois Congressman had a perfect right to make this protest either as a citizen, as an active member of the Republican party, or more especially as one of the representatives of an important State. But we are told that, instead of making his protest in either of these appropriate capacities, he assumed to represent the Grand Army the Republic, of which he is of commander, and to demand, in their name. that the office in question should not be given to General Pleasanton. Interference of this description in Government affairs, by any private organization, is in the highest degree objectionable, and the President will commit a fearful blunder if he suffers the belief to become general that he is ready or willing to yield up his private judgment, in the matter of appointments, to the decrees of the socalled Grand Army of the Republic. If that organization is strictly what it purports to be, it has not given, and could not give, to General Logan authority to make the protest in question. It assumes to be non-partisan, and to invite into its posts men of all organizations; and yet, in spite of this avoidance of partisanship, Logan claims, falsely as we believe, that it has empowered him to denounce a presumed aspirant for office on the ground that he "was not as sound politically as he might be." There is a Grand Humbug somewhere in this protest. If the Grand Army authorized the protest, it is false to its professions, and over-anxious to dabble in small potato business, while on the other hand, if it did not explicitly confer such authority, General Logan displayed very bad taste and bad faith in asserting that he had the right to speak in the name of all the Grand Army Republicans under his command. There is nothing in history so revolt. ing to the instincts of freedom as the pictures given from time to time of the arrogant power exercised by the heads of little orders over rulers of great States. No freeman can read without indignation of generals of the order of Jesuits, for instance, dictating the pelicy of monarchs of mighty European kingdoms. If General Logan is to assume this role, under a new guise, at Washington, it is high time the people knew it, and the dissemination of such knowledge will speedily wrap him and all his backers and confederates in a withering blaze of public indignation.

DELAY.

In a communication written as long ago as November 9, in reply to some strictures which we made upon Mr. William H. Ruddiman's delay in appointing a committee to revise the rules of the Republican party of this city, that gentleman said:-

"The delay in the appointment of the committee, as to which you think there is reason to complain, has had no motive other than that which has commended itself to my best judgment and most con-scientious wish to discharge faithfully the duty en-trusted to me. Whenever that motive shall have exhausted its force, the committee will be announced by me

Mr. Ruddiman, it will be remembered, was President of the convention which met on the 12th of September last to revise the rules of the Republican party, and was by that convention charged with the duty of appointing a committee of fifteen to examine and report upon the subject, after doing which the convention adjourned to meet at the call of its presiding officer. Three months have since elapsed, and Mr. Ruddiman has not only not called the convention together again, but has not even condescended to name the committee of fifteen. Mr. Ruddiman's delay has had a "motive," as he explained to us a month ago, and during the three months which have elapsed he has been subjected to a very painful exhaustive process by that "motive." Although the mysterious "motive" in question has, apparently, not yet "exhausted its force," it has exhausted the patience of the people, and there is a widespread desire to know when the process of exhaustion on the part of Mr. Ruddiman will be complete.

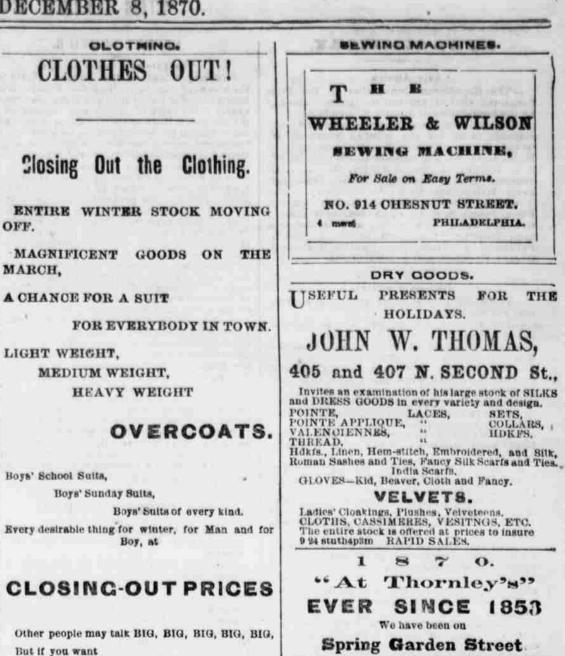
The disgraceful doings in the First Senatorial district yesterday have strengthened the desire of the honest Republicans of this city to hear something more about Mr. Ruddiman's "motive." The convention which placed Mr. Lyndall in nomination for State Senator was, as far as we can learn, made up of very good material, and appeared to be actuated by a laudable desire to do its duty fearlessly and impartially. But the room in which the delegates met was invaded by a disorderly crowd, and the door was assailed by a riotous mob, and such was the conduct of these meddlesome outsiders that it is a wonder the convention was not broken up before its task was completed. One of the objects for which the convention over which Mr. Ruddiman presided was called was the prevention of just such scenes as were enacted yesterday at Sixth and Christian streets. If Mr. Ruddiman had done his duty, the revision of the rules of the Republican party of this city could have been completed by this time, and the disgraceful scenes of yesterday would not have transpired. We desire, therefore, to propound a categorical question to dilatory Mr. Ruddiman. About what time will it be your pleasure to name the committee of fifteen, and how soon thereafter may we expect the convention to be called together? If speedy action is not taken by Mr. Ruddiman in the matter, it will become the plain duty

| MR. RUDDIMAN'S "EXHAUSTIVE" | the oracular Bunsby, who, like our ungrammatical First Lord of the Admiralty, was a mariner of high repute-"whereby, why not? If so, what odds? Can any man say otherwise? No. Awast then !" and no more of it.

THE REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR Of Alabama, W. H. Smith, who persists in attempting to cling to the Gubernatorial chair, despite his defeat at the late election, was yesterday summoned before a Republican judge of a criminal court to show cause for withholding the books, papers, and documents in the Executive Chamber from the new Governor elect, while the sheriff of the Montgomery bailiwick was ordered to take possession of the public property in dispute while the legal argument in regard to its ownership is pending. By this novel proceeding the highest office in the Commonwealth and the custody of its most important documents are subjected to the jurisdiction of an unimportant court, and another strange anomaly is added to the long list already furnished by the reconstructed States. It is rather rough on the outgoing Governor to put the sheriff on his track, but if he cannot be ejected from the Executive Chamber by any other process, we can scarcely blame an Alabama judge for doing the next thing to literally kicking the adhesive Smith out of office.

THE ALABAMA REPUBLICANS have recklessly suffered a Democrat to be elected to the United States Senate, when they were clearly in the majority. Not until the Republican party in most of the Southern States is completely used up by its own folly, can it be reconstructed on a reputable basis. But if matters go on as at present, the time for such reconstruction will soon be at hand.





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## JOHN H. SURRATT'S STORY.

JOHN H. SUBBATT has announced his intention of delivering in New York to-morrow evening a lecture on his connection with the conspiracy to assassinate Mr. Lincoln, but in the mean time he has appeared before an apparently sympathizing audience in Rockville, Md., and the lecture, which was delivered Tuesday night, will be found on our sixth page. Leaving out of the question all considerations. of propriety and good taste, the American people will not be unwilling to give Surratt's story all the attention it deserves, although, if he purposes to go on a regular lecturing tour, it would be well for him not to count very largely upon many audiences as appreciative as that which greeted him last evening in Rockville, or as may probably greet him in New York to-morrow. The gist of Surratt's story is that he was engaged, with J. Wilkes Booth and others, in a conspiracy to abduct Mr. Lincoln, for the purpose of compelling an exchange of presoners, so that the Southern armies might be augmented by the men who were detained in Northern prisons. At that time, as during the whole of the war, he was engaged as a spy at Washington, and as a

THE POSITION of France, as depicted in the cable despatches, is hourly becoming more desperate. The attempt to raise the siege of Paris has proved a lamentable failure, for the armies organized to relieve the capital have encountered a succession of destructive defeats, and the best thing their general can say of them is that "they have fallen back in

good order." Meanwhile the pressure of famine is hourly becoming more fearful in the French capital, and its capitulation cannot be much longer postponed. The situation is summed up in the alleged statement of Minister Washburne's secretary that "the the end is apparently near at hand."

of the convention to reassemble of its own accord, unless, indeed, the City Executive Committee, which has full jurisdiction in the matter, should assume the responsibility of summoning it together. The Republican party of Philadelphia cannot afford to be "exhausted" by needless and disastrous delay, simply because Mr. Ruddiman's "motive" is so peculiar that its force can never be "exhausted" in his mind.

MARITIME GRAMMAR. THE New York World is disposed to be captions. The grammar of Robeson disconcerts it, not less that the grammar of Grant. "Is they, or is they not?" it demanded frantically, a few months back, when the modern Ulysses, in one of his special messages, insisted that the United States is a singular and are not a plural. This was bad enough, assuredly. To the Worldly way of thinking, it involved the carrying of the unconstitutional theory of concentration to a reprehensible extreme. By a sweep of his pen, as in former days by a swoop of his sword, the hero of Appomattox demolished the doctrine of State soverignty. What are to become of us, demurred the World, if things are to go on thusly? What guarantee of his inalienable right to abuse a nigger have a white man, if the President of these United States are to defy their approved plurality? Have it come to such a pass, indeed, that even in Executive communications the inherent sovereignty of the States are to be ignored, that even in Presidential syntax the Union is, but are not no longer?

"They is, is they?" cried the World in their bewilderment; but if they was bewildered by Grant, they is staggered by Robeson. The ancient mariner of Camden, who was disturbed in the contemplation of the majestic manœuvres of the ferry-boats as they made the perilous passage of the raging canal, and summoned to the capital to supervise vast fleets of warlike craft, has blundered in his grammar, and the World is in sorry plight thereat. "During the period which has passed since my last report," writes the rackless Jerseyman, "the United States of America have been at peace with all nations, and the duties of her navy have been nowhere those of active hostility." Well, what if she haven't? What are the use of being a peg above the small beer of Porter, if a Secretary of the Navy be not at liberty to take liberties with Lindley Murray? Must an ancient mariner cram his head with all the occult and obtase sciences, before he can venture to go down to the sea in the Tallapoosa? Can a man that comes from New Jersey be reasonably expected to know that the United States is not, but are a plural, and have a smattering of navigation and artillery practice into the bargain? Does the "Arithmetic Man" of the World know that two and two make four, and that it is difficult to represent in figures. the Democratic gains at the recent election in New Jersey? The World must not expect too much of human nature, and should French have been beaten at all points, and remember that Robeson is human, even if he is Secretary of the Navy. "Whereby," quoth

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