

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

A LEVEE OF CHARLES V.

The court circles in Madrid have recently been indulging in a ghostly sort of picnic. The Minister of State invited the diplomatic body to accompany him to the Escorial. The court journals give a decorous account of the expedition, showing how "they arrived at the royal seat in a vernal temperature, and at once directed themselves to the palace which they visited with minuteness. They then passed to the grandiose monastery of St. Lawrence, which they went through, expressing their admiration of the rigid architecture of the immovable Herrens, the tapestries and other works of art contained in this eighth wonder of the world."

THE INDIAN NATION.

South of Kansas, lapping the southwestern corner of Missouri, lies the Indian Territory, or Indian nation, as it is called by the Missourians; a region which embraces within its boundaries 70,456 square miles, one-half more than the State of New York, and which has been set apart by treaty stipulations for the occupancy of various Indian tribes. This territory includes some of the richest and most fertile lands of the United States, and is abundantly irrigated by numerous rivers and streams. The climate is the most delightful of the greater portion of the year, and the grass remains green all winter. The soil is well adapted to corn, wheat, oats, cotton, tobacco, and garden vegetables of all kinds. As a fruit country it is unsurpassed.

The population of the Indian Territory is estimated at 53,000, thus giving each man, woman, and child about 1000 acres of land. The Indians who people it are the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles, and other tribes and nations, who have been driven from their former homes by exterminating wars, and induced to settle there by our Government under the promise that their rights should be faithfully protected. Each nation or tribe has its own reservation and regulates its own affairs. Many of the tribes have made great progress in civilization. The Cherokees number about 16,000, and own in fee simple 4,000,000 acres of land, while the United States Government holds in trust for them \$4,000,000, upon which annual interest is paid. Before the Rebellion, in proportion to their numbers, they were the wealthiest nation on the globe. They possessed immense herds, one individual alone owning twenty thousand head of cattle, while the man who owned less than three hundred was considered a poor Indian; but it is estimated that 300,000 head of stock were stolen from the Territory during the war. Schools have been established throughout the Territory, and general instruction is manifested by the Indians in the instruction of their children.

Indians confined to as limited reservations as the homestead laws would allow to an equal number of whites. The facts that the lands have been ceded to the Indians in perpetuity by solemn treaty stipulations, and that they were occupied by them at a time when no white man would have dared to live there, are not considered of any consequence by the railroad monopolists and unscrupulous speculators who are coveting their property; and it may be deemed a certainty that the most strenuous efforts will be made to wrest this rich domain from its owners, in utter disregard of the pledged faith of our national Government. If this injustice should be permitted, it would be the crowning infamy of a long series of outrages perpetrated by a powerful nation upon these weak and defenseless tribes.

REMOVAL OF THE DUKE OF MECKLENBURG—A GLANCE AT THE MILITARY SITUATION.

A correspondent at Versailles sends the information that it is reported at the headquarters of King William that the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg has been summarily dismissed from his command. The Duke commanded the right wing of the army of Prince Frederick Charles. The task assigned to that army was the annihilation of the Army of the Loire, if possible, but at all events to push it back, and thus reduce its chances of being able to give Paris the slightest assistance. In this, however, the Duke failed. It is plain, then, that this French army, which we were told by Beaumont-la-Rolande and other points, cut in two, and almost completely "used up," was in reality not so badly beaten after all; and as for being demoralized, the best answer to that allegation is to point out that, notwithstanding all those disasters of which we have heard so much, the Army of the Loire was able to preserve the stores which had been accumulated for the relief of the capital. If more is needed to convince us that this "routed, demoralized and undisciplined army of Frenchmen" is not only a formidable force, but now a threatening force, it is the removal of the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg from his command for not being able to stay its advance.

For some time past the Grand Duke and General Chanzy have been maneuvering, with advantage accruing somewhat in favor of the French General. There is no impetuosity, no seeking after grand dramatic effects, no grand charges, as have in many campaigns distinguished French movements, but instead there is a steady, solid, almost slow movement forward not at all palatable to the German commander. France has now too much at stake, and from the very nature of circumstances must act with the greatest caution. The life of the nation is set upon a cast which the French armies must shortly throw. The French Generals appear to realize this, and are acting accordingly. It may seem a little strange at first sight that the Germans do not pursue the same policy which rendered their strategy so successful in the early portion of the campaign. It now appears evident that the successes of the Grand Duke and the Grand Duke and the Bavarians of Von der Tann did not accomplish as much as their royal master intended the world should believe they achieved. We see no more of the hurrying of heavy masses of troops against inferior bodies which snatched victory from the imperial forces of Napoleon. Suppose this plan were not attempted. Fancy that in order to crush Chanzy's force Prince Frederick Charles marched to the assistance of Von der Tann, what might we reasonably anticipate as a consequence of such a movement? Bourbaki unwatched would most certainly advance and possibly appear somewhere close to Fontainebleau. The army of Bourbaki, with the late reinforcements which it has received from the greatest cautions of the imperial forces in the south of France, cannot fall very far short of one hundred thousand men—a force, if it admitted, which requires watching.

Regarding the army commanded by General Chanzy, his force is vastly superior to that of the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, and is daily increasing in numbers, figuring up to between one hundred and twenty-five and one hundred and fifty thousand men. It is the slow but steady approach of this large army to the investing lines around Paris which causes anxiety at the Prussian headquarters, and the inability to drive it back has lost, if report speaks truly, the Grand Duke his command. It is noticeable, too, that the German soldiers have lost much of that vim and spirit which formerly distinguished them. They have grown tired and weary of the campaign and are anxious to return to their homes. In the next great battle near Paris, which we believe is imminent now that the Seine is frozen over, this lack of spirit may tell against the investing armies now threatening the capital of France.

WHY JOURNALISTS ARE SO MUCH RESPECTED.

It appears that we are all strangely in the dark about the leading events of the war between Prussia and France. To begin with, the battle of Wissembourg, early in the war, was won by the French—whereas most of us thought that the Prussians were victors. It is commonly supposed that McMahon failed to effect a junction with the forces under Bazaine; but this is not the case—the two Generals combined their armies, and are still fighting with great success. Again, it is generally believed that Bazaine was obliged to surrender at Metz; but this is merely another of our delusions—the General in question has won innumerable great battles, and to this hour Metz has not surrendered. To take still another instance, there is an impression abroad that Paris is now invested by the German armies. We cannot account for the prevalence of this idea, but the truth is that the Germans are now distant at least ten days' march from Paris, and the whole of Trochu's army is posted outside the city. This version of the history of the war is furnished by the *World*, of this city, which has the reputation of being exceedingly well informed on all foreign subjects. We suppose there is no denying its statements. The *Tribune* on Tuesday gave a complete summary of the *World's* special history of the war, and people who collect remarkable specimens of journalistic enterprise had better get that summary, and learn to admire the "brilliance" of the *World's* correspondents and editors. The treatment of war news by the *World* is one of the things of which journalists ought to be proud, and which help to explain how it is that journalism is so much respected by the public.

Tweed's money, invented a story about an unpaid bill for the enormous sum of thirteen thousand dollars, as accounting for the opposition of the *Times* to the ring; and hence the satellite of the *Herald*, and a few other unprincipled sheets, have been instructed by the ring to repeat this story ever since. The *Tribune* now expresses its belief that not less than \$50,000 was paid by Tammany in one way or another to the *Herald* and the *Telegram* during last year alone. No one supposes that the proprietor of the *Herald* is aware of this turpitude on the part of his servants—still less that he touched a dollar of the money. But the nature of the support given to the Tammany Ring by the *Herald* ought to be sufficient to convince everybody that dirty work has been going on somewhere. The *Tribune* goes on to assert, upon the authority of a pamphlet just published, that William M. Tweed secured the services of the *Sun* during the late canvass "by the payment of so much cash down and the promise of more to this charge remains to be seen, but we cannot ignore the fact that a similar accusation brought against the *Sun*, in regard to a transaction with James Fisk, Jr., was published in the *Tribune* a week or so ago, and was not denied by the paper implicated. Instead of refuting the charge of taking a bribe for suppressing a certain article, as everybody must have hoped the *Sun* would do, it simply singled out and abused a gentleman connected with the *Tribune*. This was a clear case of allowing judgment to go against it by default.

The systematic corruption of the press by the Tammany and Erie cliques will begin to excite proper attention whenever the public once more shows any disposition to regard corruption as a thing wrong in itself, and fatal to the best interests of society. Any journalist who now faithfully performs his duty is made a marked man by all the bribed hacks in the country, and any paper which refuses to take bribes is sure to be denounced as "corrupt" by the rascals who accept money from any hand which offers it. For example, the accusations made by the *Times* against Tweed and his gang have never been disproved, but the feelings employed by Tweed to have simply been instructed to trump up some insane charge concerning the motives of these attacks. There are possibly some who really believe that the *World* calls Tweed a swindler one day and an angel the next from sheer conviction, and that the *Times* would not abuse Tweed if somebody paid it thirteen thousand dollars. People who put any faith in the *World's* foreign despatches must be fools enough for anything. Thus, the task of serving the public with fidelity is obstructed by the efforts of the very journals which have taken upon them to betray the public. If the exposures made by the *Tribune* on Tuesday could accomplish a wholesome change in public sentiment in regard to all journals bribed by the Tammany gang; and if those exposures further tended to purify the atmosphere of journalism generally, our contemporary would have accomplished a signal service. But we fear that the time is not yet ripe for reform, and that a great portion of the public think none the worse of a journal because it is proved to have taken bribes.

MEDICINE AND MERCHANDISE.

It appears that the question of medical education for women, after exciting the faculty of Edinburgh almost as much as it did the faculty of Philadelphia, has been finally settled by a decision of the corporation of the former university, that although women may imbibe instruction they cannot take prizes. It is, according to the faculty, an admissible thing that women should contribute to the support of their institution, but it is intolerable that they should profit by their studies. Upon this logical ground a scholarship has been refused to a woman who is admitted to have won it fairly. This decision is doubtless satisfactory to the male students, who would otherwise be in danger of seeing members of an inferior sex taking prizes away from them, and particularly to that devotee by default the prize which a woman had won. But it is scarcely in accordance with anybody's notion of justice, and the advertisement it seems to have felt the need of an authority which should outweigh reason when they invoked upon the discussion the declaration of her Majesty Queen Victoria "that she greatly disapproved of women studying medicine." By way of enforcing this august opinion the faculty decided by one vote not to prohibit women from the study of medicine in the university, which would involve the loss of the fees derived from women, but only to prohibit women from receiving the prizes which proficiency in that study might entitle them to. Which is a trivial and "seamy" whether or not it is a very high-minded procedure on the part of the faculty of Edinburgh.

The same mail which brought us this news brought us also an account, published in Sunday's *World*, of the adventures of an American woman in China. This heroic female person has penetrated the secular secrets of Cathay, and at the date of her letter was comfortably sojourning in the town of Chefoo, engaged in what has hitherto been considered the exclusively masculine function of buying tea, rather than the chiefly feminine function of selling it. Whether in the respect of this American lady, who has traversed the Flowery Kingdom, not only without molestation, but according to her own account, with great profit and satisfaction, is as alluring to the Chinese as that of the venturesome virgin who traditionally traversed the Emerald Isle was to the Hibernian eye, we have no means of knowing, any more than we have whether "rich and rare were the gems she wore," or whether she preferred to carry her valuables in the shape of the unobtrusive bill of exchange. In either case she is there buying tea, and fearing not the face of man, and it is to be hoped she is getting out. And we are not aware that before setting out she wished the advice of any male person or set of male persons as to the propriety of the course she was about to pursue.

The moral to be drawn from a comparison of these two cases is that the sphere of women is to be ascertained not by argument but by trial. The Scottish women ask the acquiescence of the faculty in their studying medicine. The American woman does not ask the acquiescence of anybody in her buying tea. When the pupil of Socrates had a face of man, and it is to be hoped she was setting out, that prudent pedagogue sent him into the garden to cultivate the same, or, as Socrates himself condescended to explain, "he goes and knows 'em." When Miss King has settled in her own mind the probable profitability of buying tea, she goes and buys it. When, on the other hand, young women yearn to know medicine, they write articles in newspapers and deliver lectures upon platitudes, and berate hidebound institutions of

instruction in that science, in defense of their right to know it. They had much better go and know it. "Nothing succeeds like success." Nobody will deny the right to trade in tea to a woman who has made a fortune by it. And nobody will deny the right to be physicians to those women who may succeed in proving themselves competent ones. A few successful female tea merchants and a few successful female physicians will do more towards dissipating whatever disbelief there may be of the competency of women to those arts than the most extreme and irrefragable demonstrations a priori that it is the inalienable right and the peculiar province of women to heal the sick and to make fortunes in the Chinese trade.

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PROPOSALS FOR PUBLIC PRINTING AND BINDING. Notice is hereby given that Sealed Proposals for the Public Printing and Binding for the State of Pennsylvania, for the term of three years from the first day of July, 1871, will be received by the Speakers of the Senate and the Representatives from this date to the fourth Tuesday of January, 1871, in compliance with the act of Assembly entitled "An act in relation to Public Printing," approved 9th of April, 1856; said proposals to be accompanied by bonds, with approved securities, for the faithful performance of the work, as required by the act of 25th February, 1862, entitled "A further Supplement to an Act in relation to Public Printing," approved the 9th day of April, 1856. F. JORDAN, Secretary of the Commonwealth. HARRISBURG, Jan. 3, 1871. 1 18

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