

Evening Telegraph

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MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 1871.

The earliest regular edition of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH goes to press at 1 1/2 o'clock, and the subsequent regular editions at 2 1/2, 3 1/2, and 4 1/2. 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.

Ma Abbott, of North Carolina, proposes to attempt to get a seat in the United States Senate, not because he received a majority of votes for that position, or because he is legally elected, but because his successful competitor, Governor Vance, is disqualified. If the latter allegation is well founded it seems an infinitely better reason for ordering a new election than for admitting to the Senate a man who is not the legal choice of the people of North Carolina.

It is rumored that while the technical reason that Ahern is not brought to trial on the charge of creating a riot in the room occupied by the Return Judges of the October election may be neglected to prefer charges in the proper manner, the reason why such charges are not preferred is that Ahern's trial would lead to developments damaging to some of the Republican politicians of this city. Is it possible that this story is true? If so, the public will be more anxious than ever to learn how it is possible that Ahern, the chosen favorite of the Fourth ward, could have acted in harmony with, or in the interest of, shining lights of the Republican organization.

GOVERNOR GEARY claims credit for being wonderfully virtuous in the exercise of the pardoning power, and he has made a great parade of his readiness to take the public into his counsels, and to inform them of the reasons for which each pardon has been granted. When this doctrine came to be applied, however, to a case that excited much interest in this community—that of Dr. Landis—Geary suddenly changed his base; all the accompanying papers were placed beyond the reach of our reporter, and unusual precautions were taken to withhold the names and statements of the petitioners from the public.

MISSOURI is a great State for free fights, political as well as personal, and it appears not unlikely that her politicians are about to have one over the United States Senatorship. The Democracy, who have a majority on joint ballot in the Legislature of about fourteen votes, recently nominated as their candidate blattant Frank Blair, and as several good men and true, who have followed the Democratic banner through sunshine and storm, were set aside to gratify his ambition, there are many grumblings and growlings among the true blues of the Democratic camp.

THE LONG AGONY occasioned among politicians by the consolidation of Internal Revenue districts in this city is over. Judge Kelley comes out of it right side up, the old officers of the Fourth district, Messrs. Sickel and Barrett, being both retained in office and their rule extended over the Second district in addition to their old domain. A compromise was effected in the choice of the officials in the newly-consolidated First and Third districts, the Collector of the former and the Assessor of the latter being kept in office, so that Boice and Myers each get half a loaf. Since these grave matters are settled, and since the hearts of the country members are gladdened by an abandonment of the scheme for consolidating the country districts, the Washington world will once more wag on smoothly, and good citizens can retire to bed in the comfortable assurance that the Union is safe.

THE FICKEN SHOOTING CASE AGAIN.

A very determined effort is now being made to obtain the remission of the forfeited bail entered in the case of Richard Ficken, who was nearly a year ago indicted on the charge of maliciously shooting and injuring a boy named Arthur Curran. The affair excited a great amount of indignation at the time on account of its peculiarly outrageous character. Fears, however, were expressed that Ficken would be allowed to escape the penalty of his crime on account of his wealth; and in order to obtain as firm a hold upon him as possible, a heavy bail bond was demanded by the court. These fears were fully justified, for bail was entered by F. L. Williams, the partner of Ficken, and the criminal as soon as he obtained his freedom left for Europe, where he has remained ever since, the probabilities of his returning being exceedingly slim, unless a pardon is obtained, which will be a bar to further prosecution. When Ficken did not put in an appearance his bail, to the amount of \$12,500, was declared forfeited, and an execution against the property of Williams was issued. Justice demands that this sum should be paid, and we hope sincerely that District Attorney Sheppard will use his best efforts to obtain it, and to prove that, although a man has wealth and social position, he cannot commit with impunity such a crime as that of which Ficken is guilty. Able counsel has been employed to stay the execution on the property of Ficken's partner, and thus far the efforts have been successful. It is understood also that application has been made to the Governor for the remission of the penalty, and the public are interested in knowing what action his Excellency will take in the matter. If this money is not paid, it will be said with truth that Messrs. Ficken and Williams have been allowed to escape on account of their wealth, where poorer men would have been made to suffer to the full extent of the law. Ficken's assault on the boy Curran was a totally unjustifiable outrage, and it should have secured for him a term of years in the penitentiary. His bail money, if it is exacted, will practically come out of his own pocket; and as it is the only punishment that can now be meted out to him, it will be a great scandal if it is not collected to the last dollar. When Ficken's case originally came into court the District Attorney displayed a commendable amount of vigilance and activity, and we hope sincerely that he will not permit the forfeiture of this bail bond to be remitted without a determined effort to prevent it.

STAFF RANK IN THE NAVY. It is expected that the bill prepared by Representative Stevens, of New Hampshire, defining the rank and privileges of the staff officers of the navy will come up for consideration to-day in the House of Representatives, when it should receive the consideration it deserves, and be promptly passed. This bill gives the surgeons, engineers, and paymasters positive rank, but it does not give them military command or any rights and privileges that will conflict with good discipline or the efficient workings of the naval system. It places the staff of the navy on the same footing exactly as the staff of the army, and if it becomes a law it will put an end to serious grievances that have caused an infinite amount of demoralization in the naval service. The subject of naval staff rank has been so thoroughly discussed of late that there is no excuse for members of Congress if they do not understand it in all its bearings, and the Stevens bill, that gives the staff officers all that they can properly demand, should be allowed to become a law without further delay. In spite of the representations of the line officers, it has been conclusively demonstrated again and again that the staff officers have no ambition to usurp the functions of these who are especially entrusted with military command, and the provisions of the Stevens bill are such that it will be impossible for any of the officers who will be affected by it to overstep their particular lines of duty or to assume responsibilities that do not belong to them. Under the terms of this bill there can never, in any contingency, be two captains to a ship; but the senior line officer, no matter what his rank may be, will have command just as at present. The bill, however, will protect for the staff proper treatment, and protect them from insult and tyranny, and it will make it an object for intelligent, educated gentlemen to enter the medical, engineer, and pay corps by assuring them that they will be protected by the law, and that they will not be at the mercy of the caprice of those who have hitherto assumed to represent the navy, and to consider surgeons, paymasters, and engineers as necessary evils, who have no rights except such as the line may choose to grant them. The question of staff rank is one that Congress will be obliged to meet some day, and trouble will be saved if it is finally disposed of now instead of delaying it until some future time.

OBITUARY. Baron Sillard, a most accomplished and honorable Frenchman, lately attached personally to the Imperial Government, has met his death on the field of battle while defending Paris. At the time of the surrender of Sedan the Baron was Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and was especially noted for qualities not peculiar to Frenchmen, namely, honesty and frankness. His truthful qualities, though not popular, caused him to be engaged in various missions of the Government where such qualities were necessary. In 1866 he went to Mexico by order of the Emperor, to acquaint Maximilian with the determination of Napoleon to withdraw the auxiliary army of Marshal Bazaine. In 1867 he was sent to Rome to give notice of the removal of the French forces from Italy. Both of these troublesome missions were satisfactorily conducted. After the fall of the Government he remained in Paris. He led his battalion, the 1st of the Mobsles of the Seine, on the 2d of December to the attack of Epinay, near St. Denis. Here he was wounded in the right arm, but kept his horse until a second ball disabled his left arm. As he was being lifted from the saddle a third ball struck him in the groin, and while being car-

ried to the rear a fourth ball struck him in the left side of the neck, coming out near the opposite shoulder, proving that he was a conspicuous mark for the enemy's bullets. He lingered for several days in great agony, and died in an ambulance at the office of Foreign Affairs. He was a member of the Jockey Club, and was counted the best sportsman and horseman in Europe.

THE WESTERN TERMINUS OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—From the special report on the route of the Northern Pacific Railroad by W. Milner Roberts, Esq., Civil Engineer, we take the following: "In referring to Puget Sound, in a general way, the mind naturally embraces the entire expanse of waters of which, technically, Puget Sound, the extreme southern portion, constitutes but a small part. The Gulf of Georgia, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, are the two grand inlets from the ocean; each being about ten miles wide in their narrow parts, and generally much wider. The Strait of Juan de Fuca must always be the main commercial avenue from the sea to the extensive region surrounding the vast interior salt water navigation which permeates that portion of United States territory lying between latitude 46 deg. and 49 deg., and between longitude 122 deg. and 124 deg. The coast line of all these inland seas covers a distance of 180 miles, surrounded on the eastern side by magnificent forests of pine, fir, cedar, etc., surpassing any forests elsewhere to be found on the globe, in the quantity and quality of the timber. The numerous settlements existing at present points, generally where saw-mills could be conveniently located, adjacent to the valuable timber tracts, and with their piers so arranged that the largest ocean ships can lie there in perfect safety, at all times, and receive their cargoes of lumber directly from the mills. The facilities for the greatest lumber trade the world has ever known are here; and before the North Pacific Railroad can be completed, the product of the mills around Puget Sound will unquestionably exist at a rate of feet per day, or three hundred millions per annum. With the settlements on these shores, which will accompany and follow the construction of this railroad, and with the interior demand that it will create along the line of the road itself, it is safe to claim that these inland seas will spring up, almost like magic, a trade which will establish this as the world's chief lumber mart. There is not anywhere else on the globe to be found an unoccupied field for a great city, such as should form the terminus of a continental railroad, uniting the waters of the Pacific and Atlantic by the shortest line between the great Puget Sound indentation of the coast in the west, and the Lake Superior indentation of the coast on the east. Between these extreme points the distance by a direct line is only 83 1/2 miles; being thirty degrees of longitude of forty-five miles to each degree, between the latitude of 45 deg. and 48 deg."

NOTICES. BEST CHANCE TO BUY CLOTHING. YET OFFERED. MEN'S ALL-WOOL OVERCOATS, \$5, TO CLOSE OUT. MEN'S ALL-WOOL BUSINESS COATS, \$5, BALANCE. MEN'S ALL-WOOL VESTS, \$1. BOYS' OVERCOATS, \$1. BOYS' JACKETS, \$1. BRUNETT & CO., No. 515 MARKET STREET, HALF-WAY BETWEEN FIFTH AND SIXTH STREETS. The above-named are sold at half their value to close them. GREAT CHANCE FOR BARAINS. We have in addition the best stock of Ready-made Clothing in Philadelphia, made in the best and most elegant manner. Prices always guaranteed lower than the lowest elsewhere.

SEWING MACHINES. THE WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE. For Sale on Easy Terms. NO. 914 CHESNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

A BIG STOCK OPERATION. Our Big Stock is Going Off! ALL THE WINTER GOODS MUST BE CLOSED OUT. WE HOLD NO STOCK OVER.

AWFUL REDUCTION. Boys can now find every required description of Winter Apparel at Lower Rates than Ever. Business Men can be accommodated with Business Suits at Strangely Low Prices.

WINTER STOCK. Now so rapidly moving off from the counters of the GREAT BROWN HALL affords opportunity for the most wonderful bargains. All our Winter Stock Must make way For the coming Spring Stock, Come and see it GO!

ROCKWELL & WILSON GREAT BROWN HALL, 603 and 605 CHESNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

HABILEMENS' No. 324 CHESTNUT ST. HABLEMENS' UNDER THE CONTINENTAL HOTEL PHILADELPHIA: PA. TAILORS. Evening Dress Suits. Military and Naval Uniforms.

CO-OPARTNERSHIPS. A CO-OPARTNERSHIP IS THIS DAY FORMED between the undersigned, who propose to carry on a GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS, at Nos. 51 and 53 South THIRD Street, in this city, under the style of DUNN BROTHERS.

THE GREAT AMERICAN FURNITURE DEPOT, 1202 MARKET STREET, 1204. Examine our immense stock, unsurpassed in variety and elegance, before purchasing. WALTER WORK A SPECIALTY. We sell 30 per cent. cheaper than auction prices and will not be undersold by any house.

MILLIKEN'S LINEN STORES, 1128 CHESNUT Street and 828 ARCH Street. NEW IRISH LINENS. 10 Cases IRISH LINENS. just received, at greatly Reduced Prices.

OUR CELEBRATED GOLDEN-FLAX LINEN. OUR MEDIUM IMPERIAL LINEN. OUR FINE BOSOM LINENS. ALSO, RICHARDSON'S SONS & OWEN'S LINENS, ALL QUALITIES. MILLIKEN'S STITCHED SHIRT BOSOMS.

OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. STATEMENT OF THE ASSETS OF THE AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, at the 31st ult., published in conformity with the act of Assembly, viz: REAL ESTATE.

INSURANCE. UNION MUTUAL INSURANCE CO., N. E. Corner of THIRD and WALNUT. Incorporated 1864. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 5, 1871.

ASSETS OF THE COMPANY, January 1, 1871. State of Pennsylvania 6 per cent. Bonds, \$10,000.00. City of Philadelphia 6 per cent. Bonds, 15,000.00. Camden and Amboy Railroad 6 per cent. Bonds, 11,200.00.

DIRECTIONS. Richard S. Smith, Pres't. JOHN MOSS, Secretary. The Directors have this day declared a Dividend of SIX PER CENT. on the capital stock and outstanding scrip, free of taxes, payable on demand, 1 1/2 1/2. JOHN MOSS, Secretary.

DREXEL & CO., No. 34 SOUTH THIRD STREET, American and Foreign Bankers, DRAWS EXCHANGE ON LONDON AND PRINCIPAL CITIES OF EUROPE.

STEINWAY & SONS' Grand Square and Upright Pianos. Special attention is called to their new Patent Upright Pianos, With Double Iron Frame, Patent Resonator, Tubular Metal Frame Action, etc., which are matchless in Tone and Touch, and unrivalled in durability.

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