

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

SPOILING A SENSATION.

It is rumored—though we cannot vouch for the truth of the report—that when Paris capitulated, the celebrated Major Goliath O'Grady Galagan, who had been for three months in the expectation of the surrender of Berlin, wandered off into the fields in a fit of bewilderment and mortification, and was never heard of afterwards.

It must be borne in mind, however, that the Chassepot, though superior to the needle-gun, has been proven inferior to many American and breech-loading rifles. As we remarked before, the system on which both the French and German arms were made is bad.

And then there was another theory. Maybe the Tennessee had reached Santo Domingo, and Ben Wade kept the correspondents under lock and key in their cabins lest they should tell the truth about annexation.

Formidable as is the French mitrailleuse, it cannot compete with the German rifled breech-loader. It certainly can fire a great many balls in an incredibly short space of time, but it is incapable of spreading the missiles which it discharges.

Well, the bubble has burst. The sensation is ruined. We can't read back numbers of the Universe now with any sort of composure. The special correspondent does not help his paper a bit.

THE WEAPONS OF THE EUROPEAN WAR—AMERICAN SUPERIORITY AND DEFICIENCY.

There are some lessons taught us by the present war in Europe which should be carefully borne in mind, and one of them relates to the weapons used by the contending armies. We have no large standing army, but our system of military defense, defective as it is in many essential features, enables us to rapidly raise and organize hundreds of thousands of men familiar with the use of firearms, and more or less acquainted with the discipline of a soldier.

One fact developed by the European contest is the defectiveness of the French and German systems of small arms. Although proven at Sadova superior to the old muzzle-loader, the needle-gun has been an ordinary weapon when opposed to the Chassepot.

threatened that the French retired, in perfect order, upon the fortress of Metz.

Nevertheless the Chassepot, which is only an improvement on the needle-gun, is also a defective weapon. Both guns are, in fact, constructed on a false principle. The breech mechanism works by means of a bolt, which moves backward and forward in a channel in order to open and close the breech.

It must be borne in mind, however, that the Chassepot, though superior to the needle-gun, has been proven inferior to many American and breech-loading rifles. As we remarked before, the system on which both the French and German arms were made is bad.

In the matter of small arms our Government has displayed much wisdom in selecting the Remington rifle, which is superior to the Chassepot and needle-gun, but also to the English Snider and any other breech-loader yet tested. One hundred thousand Americans armed with the Remington rifle, which has been adopted by the United States navy, and officially reported for adoption by the army, would be more than a match for a similar force of French, Germans, or English armed with their present weapons.

But while we are as safe as science can make us in our small arms, we are deficient in artillery. During the Rebellion the favorite field pieces in our armies were the rifled Parrott and the Napoleon smooth bore.

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We have in the Gatling gun adopted for the army a mitrailleuse superior to that used by the French, but we have no breech-loading cannon. Of what avail, then, would be our superiority in small arms if our army went into battle supported by rifled Parrotts and Napoleon smooth-bore guns, if, as has been the case in France, it was opposed by a force armed with the same artillery used by the Germans?

THE DRAGON'S FOOTSTOOL.

Asia latterly, in homely phrase, has had very much the "go by," and China has been as little thought of as Terra del Fuego. Why should any one trouble himself about the mild massacre of a few Christian men and women and the burning of churches at the antipodes last July, and the possible consequences, while Western Europe is drenched with slaughter near at hand and in full view?

attention has been called anew to this topic by a singularly clever article with a grotesque title, which we find in the *Overland Monthly*, the very creditable California monthly. It is written and signed by our late Minister (last but one) to China, Mr. Browne, and has the merit of telling the truth very plainly. It of course relates exclusively to what has occurred in China since the writer's official functions ceased, for the rule of reserve as to what is done during a minister's actual service extends beyond it.

Washington does not choose to do. For the simple reason that Mr. Browne was appointed by President Johnson, the declining folks not only refuse to discharge their pecuniary indebtedness to him, but deny him the poor justice of printing his despatches. Diplomacy in the East need have no secrets so far as the Chinese are affected, and few as to other nations; and every American minister in that region, good, bad, and indifferent—from him who twenty-seven years ago startled the silent streets of Macao with the glare of the uniform and clank of the sabre of a Massachusetts major-general, down to the exodus of Mr. Burlingame and his white-buttoned mandarins—has been in print. The doers of this last-named envoy's diplomatic rickshaws did not, we are aware, bloom by themselves, and were choked up and overshadowed by the rank, woody growth of Sewardism.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of this company, for the election of directors and for the transaction of other business, will be held at the office of the company, in Cleveland, Ohio, on WEDNESDAY, March 1, 1871, between the hours of 11 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M.

THE BOARD OF MANAGERS have declared a dividend of THREE PER CENT. on the Capital Stock, payable, clear of tax, at the Office of this Company, No. 25 BOND STREET, on WEDNESDAY, March 1, at 9 o'clock A. M.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

REDEMPTION OF CIVIL BONDS OF 1860. STATE OF CALIFORNIA, TREASURY DEPARTMENT, SACRAMENTO, February 1, 1871.

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SAFE DEPOSIT COMPANIES.

SECURITY FROM LOSS BY BURGLARY, ROBBERY, FIRE, OR ACCIDENT. The Fidelity Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit Company of Philadelphia.

COUPON BONDS, STOCKS, SECURITIES, FAMILY PLATE, COIN, DEEDS, AND VALUABLES of every description received for safe-keeping, under guarantee, at very moderate rates.

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TRAVELLERS' LETTERS OF CREDIT furnished available in all parts of Europe.

THE PHILADELPHIA TRUST, SAFE DEPOSIT AND BURGLAR-PROOF VAULTS IN THE PHILADELPHIA BANK BUILDING, No. 42 CHESNUT STREET.

LEGAL NOTICES. IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA.

DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA. IN BANKRUPTCY.

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS. OFFICE OF CHIEF COMMISSIONER, No. 104 SOUTH FIFTH STREET.

IN THE ORPHANS COURT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA. Estate of HORACE BINNEY, Jr., Esq.

CLOTH HOUSE. JAMES & HUBER. No. 11 North Second Street.

FANCY CASSIMERES. And standard makes of DRESSINGS, CLOATHS AND COATINGS.

CORRAGE. Manila, Bissal and Tarrad Corrage. At Lowest New York Prices and Freight.

CORN EXCHANGE BAG MANUFACTORY. JOHN T. BAILEY, N. E. Cor. WATER and MARKET STS.

FINANCIAL.

Bowles Brothers & Co., PARIS, LONDON, BOSTON. No. 19 WILLIAM Street New York.

Credits for Travellers IN EUROPE. Exchange on Paris and the United Bank of London.

CITY OF BALTIMORE. \$1,200,000 six per cent. Bonds of the Western Maryland Railroad Company.

ELLIOTT, COLLINS & CO., BANKERS. No. 109 South Third Street.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION. BLACK HAWK GOLD MINING COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

REAL ESTATE—THOMAS & SONS' SALE. Two-story Brick Dwelling, No. 224 Carpenter Street.

REAL ESTATE—THOMAS & SONS' SALE. Two-story Brick Dwelling and lot of ground, situate on the north side of Carpenter Street.

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